Cannock
CHRONICLE

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JOBS GO IN SHOCK NURSERY CLOSURE

By Katy Meaney

A CANNOCK nursery will close next month following a shock decision by bosses, resulting in the loss of seven jobs.

Parents will also have to find new places for the 37 children on the books at Little Friends Nursery, in in Girton Road, when it shuts on October 30.

The crèche is run by Living Springs Community Church and cares for newborn babies to eight years. It opened 10 years ago.

Phil Hewitt, trustee for the nursery, said Little Friends 'no longer fits the long-term vision of the church'.

He said: "The decision to close the nursery is one that has not been taken lightly."

He added: "Little Friends celebrated its 10th anniversary last year and is in a healthy financial position – however, the original intention of establishing the nursery was not to make money.

"We feel the role of the nursery no longer fits the long-term vision of the church, which is to provide emotional support for the whole of Cannock and the wider community.

"We have felt for some time that the building used for the nursery could be better used to that end.

Sadness

"As a church we do not see ourselves as a business, but first and foremost a support network for all ages, and we look forward to establishing new projects on the Girton Road site that can fulfil that goal."

Manager Susan Henley opened the nursery, which is open five days a week from 7.30am to 6.30pm.

She said: "It is with great sadness that we close our doors on October 30.

"We have had the pleasure of serving our community for just over 10 years. Our children are fabulous, and our parents are fantastic.

"You have provided us with endless laughs and tremendous support over the years, and the odd headache, and we will miss you all very much."

She added: "The next few weeks will be emotional and at times difficult but also very precious as we get to spend the rest of our time with those we have come to think of as family."

Kim Richards has worked for the nursery for three years. She said: "I am heartbroken that the nursery has to close. It's a fantastic nursery, great parents and brilliant kids. I don't see why we have to close."

Parents have left messages of support for the staff on the nursery's business page.

Sophie Webster said: "Little Friends is not just a nursery it is our daughter's second family. One of the biggest decisions you ever make as a working parent is who you entrust the care of your child to."

HUNT FOR FAMILY AFTER MEDALS RETURN HOME

Visitor services officer Rachel Gentle with the medals belonging to Private John Alfred Hallum that were donated to the Museum of Cannock Chase

FROM Cannock to Canada and back– these two First World War medals have travelled the world but little is known about the soldier to whom they were awarded.

John Alfred Hallum fought in the South Staffordshire Regiment and died in January 1919. He was 21 years old.

The son of George and Sarah E Hallum of Brindley Heath, Private Hallum is buried in Cannock Cemetery and is mentioned on the Hednesford War Memorial.

Dave Bevington, aged 55, a manager at an engineering company in Toronto, bought the medals online and has now donated them to the Museum of Cannock Chase.

Mr Bevington said: "I was born and lived in Cannock for 37 years before moving to Vancouver, Canada, in 1997.

"I am not really a collector but I am very interested in history and have accumulated a few photos and letters related to the Great War camps on the Chase. I saw these medals for sale and thought I would get them due to the local interest, especially as he is remembered on the Hednesford memorial.

"The seller from Scotland said that he purchased them with a collection a few years ago and had no records of where they came from.

"I did a bit of research on Private Hallum and couldn't see any type of family connections that I could reach out to in the Chase area online, so I took them back to Cannock on a recent visit and offered them to the museum. It would be nice if a family member does get to see them one day."

Rachel Gentle, visitor services officer at the museum, said they would love to find out more about the medals. Anyone with information should call 01543 877666.

PLANNING

Road name idea for tragic Stephen

COUNCILLORS were deciding this week whether to name a host of roads in Stephen Sutton's memory.

A total of 20 roads on the new development at Milestone Way will all be named under one theme. Those suggested are Stephen Sutton, wildlife and trees.

The new development is a joint venture between Taylor Wimpey and Barratt Homes and will see 351 homes built.

Burntwood Town Council was meeting this week to discuss the themes as part of a planning meeting.

● Train – Page 14

CHARITY

Splash out with crews' car wash

FIREFIGHTERS from Cannock will be holding a charity car wash on Saturday. The event will take place from 10am until 4pm at Cannock Community Fire Station.

Motorists are invited to take their car along and have it washed in return for a donation to The Fire Fighters Charity, which supports serving and retired fire service personnel and their families.

Watch Manager Ian Moss said: "Drivers can get their cars washed and do their bit for charity at the same time."

ACCIDENT

Lollipop warden hurt in collision

A LOLLIPOP lady was taken to hospital after a collision outside a school in Hednesford during rush hour.

Emergency services were called to reports of a collision between a car and lollipop lady in Marston Road, at the junction with Belt Road, at 8.20am on Monday.

A 55-year-old woman was treated at the scene, outside Staffordshire University Academy, for soft tissue injuries.

West Midlands Ambulance Service spokesman Jamie Arrowsmith said: "The woman had back injuries and was taken to County Hospital in Stafford."

● Delays – Page 5

INSIDE

VILLAGE HAS A POINT TO MAKE

PAGE 4

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CONTACT US

EDITORIAL:
Tel: 01543 465345
E-mail: cannock.chron@expressandstar.co.uk

SPORTS:
Tel: 01902 319453
E-mail: chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPHIC:
Tel: John Sambrooks 01902 319431

ADVERTISING: Sarah Jones
Tel: 01543 465341
E-mail: sarah.winfield-jones@expressandstar.co.uk

PROPERTY: Marguerita Finnegan
Tel: 01543 465337
E-mail: marguerita.finnegan@expressandstar.co.uk

MOTORING: Jayne La Hiffe
Tel: 01543 465344
E-mail: jayne.lahiffe@expressandstar.co.uk

CLASSIFIED:
Tel: 01902 317878
E-mail: my-classified@expressandstar.co.uk

DISTRIBUTION: Paul Jones
Tel: 01902 319990
E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

Cannock CHRONICLE

51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES
Open Monday to Friday 9am-1pm and 2pm-5pm
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M6 cash helps animal rescue centre

From left, Mandy Deakin with Rosedene Rescue Centre volunteers and Rio the Staffie

TAILS are wagging at an animal rescue centre thanks to a donation from the operators of the M6 Toll.

Midland Expressway Limited has handed over £500 which will help towards vet bills for animals at Rosedene Animal Rescue Centre in Walsall.

The donation is part of the Drive for Charity initiative and staff also collected food and toy supplies for the charity.

Mandy Deakin from Burntwood, works for Midland Expressway Limited and championed the project.

She said: "I discovered Rosedene online where I read how a lot of Staffordshire Bull Terriers were being 'overlooked' and some even spending most of their lives in the centre.

"As a Staffie owner, this upset me a great deal as I could not think of a more gentle, loyal dog so I approached our Social Committee for funding.

"What stood out for me the most is they will rescue a dog from a pound and literally save their lives. It was a massive eye opener to see the effort the team put in to keep the rescue centre clean, warm and well stocked. It is a great pleasure to support them."

The rescue centre currently has more than 30 dogs in its care and is a not for profit organisation, relying solely on public donations.

Volunteers help with daily cleaning duties, walking the dogs and organising fundraising events, to help pay for the growing vets bills.

An increasing number of dogs are needing emergency treatment and the donation will go towards these costs.

Kelly Hadley, manager at the rescue centre, added: "We are extremely grateful to the M6 Toll for the donations and funds towards our vet bill. "

Nursing home told to improve by inspectors

A NURSING home has been criticised for failing to respect residents' privacy and dignity after inspectors found one person having their medicine patch in a corridor.

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) also found one person being given a shave in the lounge at Hawkesyard Priory Nursing Home in Rugeley during a recent inspection.

The home was ordered to improve in four out of five areas assessed by the health watchdogs, who visited in July.

Safety concerns were raised after medicines were found stored in a fridge without use by dates.

Inspectors spoke to 14 people who used the service, 12 relatives, 12 members of the care staff and the registered manager.

It followed an inspection in November last year when the home was found to be in breach of the Health and Social Care Act.

The report said: "This (the breach) was because people's care and welfare did not always meet the required standard.

"At this inspection we saw that this had improved, however some people were not supported to maintain their privacy and dignity.

Shaved

"We saw one person had their medicine patch changed, which involved exposing their back, whilst sitting in the corridor.

"We observed another person being shaved whilst sitting in the lounge area with other people present."

The report added: "Some of the records relating to the administration of medicines were not accurate. There was no guidance in place to ensure staff understood when to give people 'as and when' required medicines for pain or to help settle them when they were distressed."

"At this inspection we found some improvements had been made. However, we found other breaches in respect of safeguarding people from harm, the management of medicines and the accuracy of records."

The investigation looked to find out if the service was safe, effective, caring and well led and found it requires improvement in all four categories. It scored good under the category 'responsive'.

Deer oh deer what rutting luck

The stunning shot of deer locking antlers, snapped by Ged Gill, from Preston, on Cannock Chase

IT is the kind of shot all wildlife photographers dream about – a pair of young bucks locking antlers.

The sometimes hard-to-snap fallow deer were captured by Ged Gill from Preston, who took this stunning picture while out on Cannock Chase.

Rutting or mating season has now started, with males fighting each other, to gain the attention of females.

Mr Gill uploaded a selection to the photo sharing site Flickr.

He shared five pictures of deer from his trip, as well as two fox shots and one of a green woodpecker.

He said: "Most of these Cannock forest photos I've posted were taken from a lodge on a site about 10 miles from Stafford.

"The deer wander the site and more or less eat out of your hand, and they drift off into the wilderness at night.

"I only went there because my wife booked a few days to take our daughter and grandson to Drayton Manor."

Fallow deer have been found on Cannock Chase for centuries.

Between 800 and 1,000 are thought to live on the famous beauty spot.

A deer captured on camera

Leisure site team earns an excellent Quest rating

A LEISURE centre and sports development team in Cannock has achieved an excellent rating in a tough combined assessment by Sport England's leading national quality scheme, Quest.

Quest is the best-known improvement programme within the sport and leisure industry and its rigorous assessments challenge even the very best leisure centres and sports development teams in the UK.

Wigan Leisure & Culture Trust(WLCT) manages leisure services on behalf of Cannock Chase Council.

To achieve Quest Combo – a double assessment that takes into account both the facilities offered by a provider and its sports development team – WLCT's Community Wellbeing Team, Sport and Chase Leisure Centre in Cannock went through a three-day check plus a mystery visit.

The assessment comprised 21 modules. Of these, WLCT was rated excellent in 15 and good in six.

Chase Leisure Centre achieved excellent in five core modules, including Community Outcomes and Team and Skill Development, while the Community Wellbeing Team, Sport achieved excellent in six core modules, including Financial and Budget Management and Partnership Working. Joint modules – covering both centre and team – in which the trust achieved an excellent rating include Junior Activities and Sales and Retention.

Pete Burt, managing director of WLCT, said: "We are delighted."

Talk on filming of Richard III search

CANNOCK Library hosts a talk on the filming of the search for Richard III next week.

R Almost Marked the Spot: Filming the Search for Richard III is the name of the talk by Leicester University video producer Carl Vivien. It takes place in Manor Avenue from 6.45 to 8.15pm on Tuesday, September 29. Tickets are £3.50, or £3 for library members, to be booked on 01543 510365.

Mr Vivian was asked to record the search from the moment the ground was broken at the Greyfriars site to the final announcement that confirmed the identity of the remains. He picks out some of the highlights of the six-month project, shows some behind the scenes clips that have never been broadcast and provides an update on the on-going work.

Ramblers embark on nine-mile trek

CHASE & District Group Ramblers head off on a nine-mile moderate walk at Coven this weekend.

Departure time on Sunday is 9am from Hednesford rail station car park, Anglesey Street. Call 01543 574036 for more details.

Minister to officially open centre for addicts

A CONTROVERSIAL £200,000 base for recovering drug and alcohol addicts in Cannock will be opened by Conservative minister Iain Duncan Smith next month.

Burton Addiction Centre is moving into a renovated 12-bedroom house in High Green.

The ex-addicts who live there will also run a tearoom next door, at the former Bistro 95, which closed last year.

The two sites will be formally opened by the Work and Pensions Secretary and former Tory leader on October 7.

Noreen Oliver, chief executive officer of Burton Addiction Centre, said the town needed the centre and it would be the 'first facility of its kind' in the area.

She said: "We are delighted to be opening our second Langan's Tea room and Recovery House in Cannock which are social enterprises run by Cannock residents who have undertaken abstinence rehabilitation for drug or alcohol dependence.

"We are really excited about this and the support we have received from members of the community," she added.

"The tearooms will be opened by Iain Duncan Smith, who has been a wonderful supporter of our work for a number of years now."

Plans for the semi-independent facility were approved in February this year, despite fierce objections from residents over the suitability of a town centre location.

First phase of shelters replaced

BUS shelters in Cannock have been replaced during the first phase of a £48,000 project in the borough.

Six have been given a new-look by Cannock Chase Council as part of the refurbishment programme.

They are in Hednesford Road, Rugeley, Uxbridge Street and Bradley Lane, both Hednesford.

Others to have undergone work include Wolverhampton Road and Lichfield Road, Cannock, along with Longford Road.

Thirteen bus shelters will be replaced and five refurbished over a two year period.

Environment chief, councillor Alan Dudson, said priority was given to those bus shelters in the worst condition.

Free paper folding session at library

A FREE vintage paper folding craft session takes place at Cannock Library next Friday, September 25.

It is being held in Manor Avenue from 10am to noon. Materials are provided. Book on 01543 510365.

Growing dance school branches out

Some of the M3 Studio youngsters

A DANCE school is expanding to cater for a growing number of students.

M3 Studios is less than a year old but is already full at its Cannock and Penkridge studios with more than 130 students enrolled. Branches in Stafford, Rugeley, Brownhills and Burntwood are expected to follow and a number of open days have been planned to show prospective students what is on offer.

Run by Penkridge sisters Mia-Jay and Marni-Lee Clarson, M3 Studios teaches three-to-18-year-olds to act, sing and dance and offers direct connection to the Professional Musical Theatre industry.

Mia-Jay and Marni-Lee starred in the CBBC reality series School for Stars when they were students at the Italia Conti performing arts school, in London and all M3 tutors are all West End performers.

The dance school's debut show at the Prince of Wales Centre was an adaptation of the Wizard of Oz and its next show, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, will be staged at the Church Street venue in January. Summer schools and termly courses are held. The school can also offer private Lamda courses and will soon be taking part in dance, singing and acting festivals.

Open days are taking place at Brownhills Memorial Hall, Lichfield Road, on September 27 and 29, at Burntwood Memorial Institute, Rugeley Road, on October 3 and 6, at Colton Village Hall, Bellamour Way on September 30 and at Cannock Cricket & Hockey Club, Four Crosses Cannock on October 3. For details, call 07715 583721, email mia@m3studios.co.uk or visit www.m3studios.co.uk

Be alert to the risks of slavery, bosses urged

BUSINESSES in Staffordshire will be warned about the risks of people trafficking and forced labour at a conference run by police.

The county's Police and Crime Commissioner's Office, which is staging the event, is urging local companies to attend.

Speakers will include Kevin Hyland, the UK's Anti-Slavery Commissioner, Paul Broadbent, chief executive of Gangmasters Licensing Authority, and Gary Booth from the national charity Hope for Justice.

The conference, to be held at the Staffordshire County Showground, is aimed at professionals and local businesses.

Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Sue Arnold is spearheading an awareness campaign about the illegal exploitation of people.

She said slavery victims were most commonly vulnerable people within minority or socially excluded groups.

Around two-thirds of victims are women and every fourth victim of modern slavery is a child.

Some 1,746 potential victims of trafficking were identified in the UK in 2013, representing a 47 per cent increase on 2012 referrals.

Forced

The deputy commissioner said these were the victims who were known about and that the actual numbers were likely to be much higher. In March 2015, The Modern Slavery Act became law which ensured law enforcement has stronger powers, perpetrators receive suitable severe punishment and victims are better protected and supported.

Mrs Arnold said: "Modern day slavery is still happening across the UK and Staffordshire is not exempt. It is estimated that 29.8 million people around the world are currently affected and it is an issue which we all need to face.

"Modern slavery can take many forms including the trafficking of people, forced labour, servitude and slavery. Our aim with the conference is to make local businesses aware of what classifies as modern day slavery so they have the information to detect any illegal activity."

The Chief Constable of Staffordshire, Jane Sawyers, is backing the awareness campaign.

The conference will take place on December 10 between 9.30am and 1.30pm.

In the meantime, businesses can find out further details about the issue by visiting the website www.modernslavery.co.uk or calling the helpline on 0800 0121 700.

An air ambulance which attended the scene at Norton Aluminium, in Norton Green Lane, Norton Canes Picture: Shaun Looker

Worker killed in factory plunge

A MAN died after falling through a roof at a factory in Norton Canes.

Emergency services were called to Norton Aluminium, in Norton Green Lane, where the man had suffered serious injuries and was in cardiac arrest.

He was confirmed dead at the scene by paramedics.

It happened at around 2.25pm on Saturday.

West Midlands Ambulance Service spokesman John Hawker said: "The man had suffered serious injuries and was in traumatic cardiac arrest.

"Ambulance medics carried out advanced life support but sadly, despite everyone's best efforts, nothing could be done to save the man."

Two ambulances, a paramedic officer, the trust's hazardous area response team and two Midland Air Ambulances attended.

One of the air ambulances landed in front of the Brock Metal Company premises in Walsall Road.

Bosses at Norton Aluminium, which manufacturers high-grade aluminium foundry alloys, were unavailable for comment.

NEWS IN BRIEF

A night to give it some oompah

The Chairman of Cannock Chase Council is holding a charity Bavarian Night for her chosen charities.

The event will take place in the Ballroom at the Civic Suite on Friday October 9 at7.30pm.

It will include live entertainment from Kellermeister Oompah Band and a hog roast.

Tickets cost £15 and are available by calling The Executive Support Team on 01543 464553.

All monies raised will go to The Teenage Cancer Trust and 5th St Luke's Brownies.

Free sessions at centre open day

VISITORS can try a host of activities for free at Burntwood Leisure Centre next weekend.

The High Street facility is staging an open day to launch its Les Mills workout programmes that will feature in its body pump and body combat classes.

The open day, on Saturday, October 3, will offer taster sessions and other free activities, all on a first-come first-served basis from 10am to 4pm.

The open day also includes a Macmillan Coffee Morning from 11am with hit drinks and cakes on sale.

Pharmacy raises cancer group cash

A BURNTWOOD chemist collected nearly £120 for a local breast cancer support group thanks to a month of fundraising activities.

As part of its first birthday celebrations, Jhoots pharmacy held a tombola, guess how many sweets in the jar and a raffle for a shopping walker. A sum of £118.19 was raised.

Finance director Steve Haywood presented the shopping walker to a Mr Cope and the jar of sweets to a Mr Davies.

Cheers to launch of second festival

THE second Cannock Chase Camra Beer Festival gets under way today and runs for three days at the Prince of Wales Centre in Cannock.

The festival will be officially opened at 6pm by Robert Heighway, director of SNAP who are this year's designated festival charity.

Later in the evening the festival will host the judging of the South West Stout & Porters category for the Champion Beers of Britain CAMRA award.

Fashion show at hall

A NEW collection of clothes, bags, jewellery and accessories will all be on display at a fashion show in Great Wyrley next week.

Glitzy Bits is staging the event at Old Wyrley Hall, Olde Hall, from 7.45pm on Monday September 28.

Call Ryan on 07557 336668.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

THE big news this week, on the front pages and trumpeted by TV and radio, is that Facebook is to launch a "dislike" button. The small and rather neglected news is that North Korea has fired up its nuclear programme to make bigger and better hydrogen bombs. Interesting priorities.

HOW phobias work. Those of us with a yabba-dabba relationship with spiders will take no comfort at all in this week's news that a British firm has perfected the spider-proof garden shed. The idea is that no spider can get into the silicone-sealed garden hut. Or to put it another way, if a spider enters by the door which is then closed, it has no escape. It's just you and the spider, locked together, sealed together, mutually terrified. My own shed is well provided with chinks, gaps, knot-holes and other escape routes. At this time of year as I enter, there is a sudden scurry of small things exiting.

BEING a good citizen, I have just completed and returned what the NHS calls the Bowel Cancer Screening Kit and the rest of us call poo sticks. You'd think there would be a law against putting that sort of stuff in the post. In theory, millions of us over-60s are dutifully returning our samples. A friend said that until he did his DIY bowel-cancer test, he had no idea how many things he could balance on his knee at the same time.

I AM often wrong in my political forecasts but I would not write off Jeremy Corbyn too soon. While the Westminster elite have been guffawing at his unpolished speeches or tut-tutting at his refusal to sing the National Anthem, 30,000 new members have joined the Labour Party. The more the Fleet Street pack snap at his heels and the more that smart-arse TV pundits scoff at him, the more the Great British Public sees Corbyn as a bullied hero and suspect there is an Establishment plot against him.

AND tell me, how is an avowed republican like Corbyn supposed to sing the line: "Long to reign over us"? Sing and you're a hypocrite. Don't sing and you're a traitor.

THE total debt on this planet is now almost three times the planet's annual output. Every man, woman and child owes, on average, about £20,000. The sums are way beyond boggling. As one wag asked on the radio a few days ago: "Who are we borrowing from – Mars?"

THE lambs in the field down the road have been gambolling, grazing and getting steadily fatter over the past few months. Now a big sign appears in the field, informing us that from 4pm tomorrow the farmer will be selling whole or half lambs. One of the mercies of being a lamb is that you never learn to read.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

MP wears it pink for campaign

CHASE MP Amanda Milling has shown her support for women with breast cancer by dressing in pink and encouraging her constituents to do the same.

Ms Milling is backing Breast Cancer Now's flagship fundraiser, Wear It Pink, on October 23.

The campaign calls on supporters across the country to ditch the day-to-day colours and pull on some pink to raise money for breast cancer research.

She said: "Right now breast cancer is at a tipping point. Every year in the UK around 50,000 women are diagnosed with breast cancer, and sadly nearly 12,000 women still lose their lives to the disease. This is why we all must come together to support Breast Cancer Now's cutting-edge research, and, in wear it pink.

"There is a fun and simple way for everyone to get involved. Together we can make a big difference for women with breast cancer, now and in the future; I hope everyone in the local community will join me in wearing it pink on October 23 and show their support for Breast Cancer Now."

See www.wearitpink.org for details.

Chase MP Amanda Milling

Villagers in fresh fight against homes scheme

By Carl Jackson

DISMAYED residents have launched a fresh campaign against plans for a large housing estate in Great Wyrley.

Dozens of villagers turned out for the public unveiling of the proposals for 136 homes at Landywood Lane.

It is the second time in two years the parishioners have objected to the development, which would be built on top of former mineshafts. Many feel if approved, it will pave the way for entire swathes of green belt land to be built on and merge the village with Cheslyn Hay.

Previously, more than 4,000 people signed a petition against a similar set of plans from the same applicant Ken Lees, the land owner behind KGL Holdings fronting the bid.

Planning permission was refused, but the exhibition at Great Wyrley Community Centre confirmed the bid was now back on the table.

Devastated

Joanna Fisher, aged 33, who has helped launch a new petition against the development, said: "I was absolutely heartbroken and devastated when I heard about the latest plans.

"I didn't think it would come around again for another 10 years.

"A lot of people have spent time out of their day to come to this exhibition because they don't want it.

"No-one is for it."

The new petition will be available for residents to sign at Fusion Electrical Contractors on Station Street.

Ms Fisher is also urging people to follow the Facebook group 'Save Our Space-Landywood Lane, Great Wyrley' which already has more than 700 members.

Glenis and Clive Priest are also spearheading the campaign and will be putting a petition table underneath a gazebo outside of the Small Dog Rescue on Landywood Lane.

Mrs Priest said: "This is not going to be the end. This will just be phase one.

"The two villages will merge into one. If he gets permission to build on that it will basically mean the green belt doesn't matter now."

Concerned residents at the public exhibition into the Landywood Lane development

Concerns have been raised that hundreds of new residents will overburden the area's road network and schools.

The plans also include 17 allotments, 23 acres of wasteland converted to a public park and 90 park and ride spaces at Landywood railway station.

But not everyone at the exhibition was against the scheme.

One man who did not want to be named because he thought his views would be unpopular, said: "We have got a lovely railway line at Landywood but there isn't enough parking. This would solve that.

"It would also create a really nice area of parkland which is just wasteland and old mineshafts at the moment which people can't go on. I think this is progress. It is change but people don't like change, they are against it."

KGL has stated 56 of the homes would meet local need with the other 80 generating funds to renovate four of Mr Lees' listed buildings in Teddesley Estate in Penkridge.

The developer has also vowed to make 28 former mineshafts on the site safe.

Nigel Farmer, planning consultant representing KGL, said: "The objective of the exhibition was to address all of the negative opinion from the press and social media and to give positive solutions.

"If we get planning consent for this then that will meet the local need until 2030 so there couldn't be any further development."

Arthur and Christine Wynn take a look at the proposals

School flies high with top award from RAF

A BURNTWOOD school has been awarded a platinum plaque by the RAF.

Chase Terrace Technology College was selected for the award to recognise its support for the Royal Air Force. It is the highest accolade that can be awarded to a school.

The school encourages its quality students to apply for a variety of roles within the RAF and force personnel regularly visit to actively promote their careers opportunities.

Julie Poppleton, the school's head of Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG), was presented with the award by Squadron Leader Carrie Rossi.

Mrs Poppleton said: "We were delighted to be chosen for this award. It is the highest level which can be awarded to a school. As a school we pride ourselves on the strong relationships we build and develop with our employers including the Public Services. We strongly believe in raising our students' aspirations and awareness about all of the career opportunities and paths there are for them and we are proud so many of our students have chosen a career in the RAF."

Sqdn Ldr Rossi, senior careers engagement officer for the West Midlands, said: "The Royal Air Force have over 2,000 vacancies per year in a variety of roles including, engineering, catering, logistics, personnel, aircrew, airfield support, medicine to name a few. Many roles have an attractive apprenticeship programme for school leavers which has recently been rated Outstanding by Ofsted."

Arriva brings back axed bus service

AN axed bus service from Cannock to Walsall has been reinstated following complaints from more than 200 people.

The number two Arriva Midlands bus – which passes through Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay – started up again last weekend.

The service, which ran every 30 minutes, six days a week, had been axed on September 4.

Bus users decided to fight for the service leading transport bosses to perform a u-turn on the decision.

Dan Flanagan, Arriva's local manager, said: "The reinstatement of service two along Landywood Lane from Saturday shows we have listened to our customers.

Service two will run up to every 30 minutes on Monday to Saturday between Cannock, Cheslyn Hay, Great Wyrley, Bloxwich and Walsall."

Meeting on police front desk closure

POLICE and Crime Commissioner Matthew Ellis will be at Burntwood Library on Monday from 7pm to discuss the closure of the front desk at Chasetown police station.

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Judge rules ex-footballer justly fired from prison

EX-FOOTBALLER Vernon Allatt was not unfairly dismissed from his prison officer job at HMP Featherstone, an employment tribunal has ruled.

The ex-Preston North End and Hednesford Town striker was sacked amid claims he lost control during an altercation with a 'challenging' prisoner who refused to return to his cell on June 8 last year.

Mr Allatt pulled out his baton, swung it at the inmate five times and struck him twice and also struck him twice in the face using his hand.

The Prison Service said Mr Allatt's actions were too much and fired him. The 56-year-old of Rugeley disputed this, saying he was unfairly dismissed.

However, Employment Judge Mr Robin Broughton upheld the prison's decision to relieve the officer of his duties on grounds of gross misconduct.

Mr Howard Shelley, representing Mr Allatt, told the hearing that during his entire 27-year career in the Prison Service, the officer had never previously used his baton and believed he and his colleagues were at risk of being harmed.

"In my submission this was lawful self-defence. There was never a question of charges being brought against Mr Allatt for assault," he said.

The inmate involved was later convicted of assaulting prison officer Mike Francis, of Gnosall, who suffered a head injury.

Mr Allatt was sacked in January following a disciplinary hearing. He declined to comment after the judgement.

Camra endorses town centre pub

A CANNOCK pub has been acclaimed for the quality of its real ale – by the town's branch of the Campaign for Real Ale (Camra).

The Linford Arms in High Green is listed in Camra's Good Beer Guide 2016, which was published on September 10.

A Camra spokesman said: "It is our belief that if a licensee serves an excellent pint of real ale, then everything else in the pub, including customer service, quality of food and atmosphere, are likely to be of an equally high standard."

Pub manager Andrew Johnston said: "I am delighted The Linford Arms has been recognised for the quality of its real ales by Camra members."

Places remain on charity run

THERE are still spaces left on Katharine House Hospice's 10k and 5k charity runs at Shugborough Hall on October 4. Gates open at 9.30am

The route includes roads, paths and dirt tracks. Sign up on 01785 270808.

No barrier to money-spinning efforts

Contestant enters water pit

FUNDRAISERS can take a challenge with a sting in the tail, an obstacle course in aid of Caudwell Children.

The Scorpion Run – Winter Edition, take place on Saturday, November 21, from noon at Lower Drayton Cottages, near Penkridge.

The challenge gives participants the choice of either a 5km or 10km course through muddy terrain that features more than 30 obstacles.

Participants raise vital funds for the national charity to help it provide a range of specialist equipment, treatments, therapies, short breaks and family services for disabled children in Staffordshire.

The event, owned and managed by a highly experienced team of personal fitness instructors and ex SAS soldiers, is designed to push participants to their limit in a punishing test of physical and mental strength.

Tasks include climbing a mountain of tyres, a water pit, monkey bars, stepping stones and carrying a large log through bunkers and up hills.

Participants then run through a forest carrying a 5kg sandbag, before undertaking a 2K cross country run before negotiating haybales, cargo nets, a swamp track and a barbed wire hill.

Registration costs £30 per person in September, rising to £40 in October, £45 in November, and £50 on the day. Register at www.caudwellchildren.com/scorpionrun

Kirsten Greaves, challenge events co-ordinator at Caudwell Children, said: "Anyone who chooses to fundraise for Caudwell Children will be sent a fundraising pack, and for those who raise over £60 we will send them a running vest to wear on the day."

Delays and diversions bring rush-hour hell

DIVERSIONS, road closures and miles of illuminated brake lights and beeping horns – welcome to rush hour hell.

With the added setback of torrential rain, Monday's morning and afternoon rush hours were the worst to hit Staffordshire and the West Midlands for a while, with thousands of drivers stuck in jams for more than 45 minutes and ending up late for work.

Crashes, roadworks, the return of the school run and the general Monday morning slog led to problems in Hednesford, Gailey, Shareshill, Wolverhampton, Bilston, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, and Great Barr.

Added to this was the first Monday morning in the revamped Birmingham New Street, with train passengers asked to get to the station earlier than usual to get used to its new layout and electronic ticket machines.

The more serious matters on the roads included a lollipop lady being knocked down by a car in Hednesford and a smash on the M6, which resulted in two people going to hospital.

Damage

The collision, involving a van and minibus, happened between junction eight for the M5 and junction nine for Wednesbury northbound at 6.30am. Three people in the minibus suffered minor injuries. One was discharged at the scene and two were taken to Walsall Manor Hospital. No-one in the van was injured.

The minibus had extensive front-end damage, while the van had rear offside damage. As a result, two lanes of the M6 northbound were closed, causing tailbacks to junction seven for Great Barr on the M6 and junction one for West Bromwich on the M5.

Meanwhile, a broken-down vehicle also caused hour-long delays on the M6 southbound from junction 14 Stafford North to junction 11 Cannock. The M54 also became congested as drivers waited to get on the M6, as did the motorways islands at junctions 11 and 12.

Later in the day, traffic backed up for more than a mile after a three-car pile up on the Cannock Road, Wolverhampton. Emergency services were called to the scene at 12.20pm.

An hour later at 1.30pm, a van fire closed another section of the M6. The fire on the southbound stretch happened between junction seven for Great Barr, and six for Birmingham. Two lanes were closed for an hour, and then all traffic stopped to allow for recovery, with delays of up to 90 minutes from junction 11.

Police station houses defibrillator

From left, PCSO Gareth Lloyd, Sgt Carolyn Higgins, WMAS Public Governor Paul Dadge, Councillor Steve Hollis and WMAS Community Defibrillation Facilitator Keith Dawson. Credit: WMAS

A TRIP to the police station could prove a life-saver thanks to the installation of a defibrillator.

The defibrillator is housed at Cheslyn Hay Police Station in High Street and is available to use 24/7. West Midlands Ambulance Service will be hosting three free training sessions in the village to help residents feel comfortable should they ever need to use it.

Community First Responder and Public Governor for West Midlands Ambulance Service Paul Dadge encouraged Cheslyn Hay parish council to apply to the British Heart Foundation for funding and they were successful in being awarded a £400 grant.

The village authority provided the remainder of the funds before agreeing with Staffordshire Police that it could be located at the police post.

Council chairman Councillor Steve Hollis said: "We are delighted to have been able to provide the local community with a defibrillator. While we hope it never needs to be used, it could prove essential in saving a life as those vital minutes and seconds during a cardiac arrest can make all the difference."

The free two-hour training sessions take place at the village hall in Pinfold Lane, on October 1 and 22 and November at 1.30pm. Book on 01922 410483.

NEWS IN BRIEF

MP selects Dilshad in cooking contest

A CANNOCK restaurant has been entered into a national competition by Chase MP Amanda Milling.

She nominated the Dilshad Indian restaurant in Chadsmoor for the regional heats of the Tiffin Cup.

Mystery diners mark the food, service, atmosphere and decor to find the regional winners.

The final award is made after the regional finalists have taken part in a cook-off at the Houses of Parliament.

Ms Milling said: "The Dilshad is a very worthy nomination and I think they have a great chance."

Dozens set sail for club's 60th

DOZENS of boats will be on the water when Chase Sailing Club celebrates its diamond anniversary on Saturday.

The event at Chasewater Country Park will also mark the revival of the site during the last two years.

"Sixty-plus craft are expected on the water at 12 noon – a sight never seen on the reservoir in modern times," the club's PR officer Barry Bird said.

"This will be accompanied by afternoon tea and two races, followed by evening entertainment."

The reservoir underwent extensive repairs between 2010 and 2013.

Transport links to be improved

A NEW bus interchange will be built in Burntwood under plans to improve transport links in the town.

As part of the Burntwood Local Transport Package, Lichfield District Council has pledged to improve access to buses, increase the frequency of services and renovate public spaces.

The document, tabled at an overview and scrutiny meeting this week, adds the council wants to bring a rail station to Burntwood if the Walsall-Lichfield line is opened to trains.

Top volunteer award to be handed over

LORD Lieutenant of Staffordshire Ian Dudson will present a Burntwood group with a top award next week.

The Embroidery for Burntwood Community Group has achieved the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service this year, commonly known as the Oscars of the voluntary world.

Mr Dudson will formally present the award an invitation only reception at Burntwood Memorial Institute, Rugeley Road, at 6.30pm on Friday, October 2.

Larger phone mast bid

PLANS have been submitted to replace a phone mast in Penkridge with a larger one. The application states the 49ft mast at Pinfold Lane which has three antennas, would be taken down and replaced by one 57ft in height with six antennas. South Staffordshire Council will decide.

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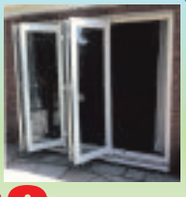

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IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

A cultured approach to living a proper life

ARE you cultured? I've always liked to believe I am. I've got the full box-set of The Sweeney on DVD, I always insist on Tesco Classic coffee, and would never dream of asking for lager in a pub. In other words, I'm a discerning man about town who appreciates the finer things in life. Well, Black Country life, anyway.

A new survey reveals a list of 40 things which determine how cultured we are, and for many people it will make mixed reading.

For instance I do have a library card, which is one of the attributes. I read a newspaper every day – well several actually – and don't turn the news off when it comes on television. So far, so good then. But then it gets more difficult. For example, you're probably unlikely to find me in an art gallery – I don't know much about art, but I do know what I like. And it sure isn't the kind of guff you'll get in the Tate Modern.

Watching subtitled films is supposed to be another sign of being a well-rounded individual, but surely if you're that smart you'll be fluent in a different language anyway, and the subtitles will be superfluous. Unless you're watching Taggart, of course. Knowing about different cuts of meat is also cited, and I can tell the difference between KVE Original and pork crunch.

The survey also suggested that a truly cultured person would always want to read a book before watching the film adaptation. I totally agree, but I've never been able to track down the novel to Mutiny On The Buses.

■ ■ ■

The Queen's record-breaking reign has brought the usual dreary protests out from the drab republicans, moaning that there is nothing democratic about an hereditary monarchy. But I suspect if there were a referendum tomorrow, more people would vote for keeping the Queen than replacing her with a boring middle-aged man in a suit.

And if that happened, would those committed democrats respect the will of the people that voted in the referendum? Of course they would. Just like the Scottish Nationalists did.

■ ■ ■

THE end I.S. nigh, screamed the headline. "The defeat of Islamic State is inevitable after nearly half its fighters were wiped out." Some days I really wish I could believe everything I read in The Sun.

■ ■ ■

THE English Bridge Union is now trying to get sitting around playing cards as a sport. And quite right too. Let's just make sure they include pontoon and rummy. And snap, of course. Then I can say I'm not only cultured, but also a sportsman. I never knew my life was so complete.

Tony's engineering expertise helps with each guitar's creation

Accomplished player Sam tunes up one of the latest instruments

Some of the amazing range of instruments made by the Wrights

Strum-thing special for a father and son

SIMON PENFOLD meets a family duo who are hoping to make it in the music world with their carefully crafted guitars

IT has been a long, tough and sometimes heartbreaking journey, but engineer Tony Wright says he is now 'living the dream' – working alongside his youngest son, crafting hand-made guitars in a small workshop in Wolverhampton.

Sam Wright, aged 25, and his father Tony, 59, are making guitars together in Wolverhampton

Like most teenagers, Tony picked up a guitar. But unlike most he kept on playing and eventually learned electric bass.

Now, 43 years on, he and son Sam are launching their own business, Lakestone Guitars, and rapidly building a strong reputation for the quality of their work and the beautiful tone produced by their guitars.

Father and son say they have been supported by their strong Christian faith and by their love for their craft as luthiers – a term dating back to the original lute makers of the 15th and 16th centuries. Their current profession is a million miles from where Tony started, training as an apprentice fitter with Robinson Brothers in West Bromwich in 1972.

Redesigning

His engineering career went from strength to strength. Working for an engineering consultancy in Wolverhampton he found himself redesigning the machine at the Cadbury factory at Bournville that makes the Curly Wurly.

"That was in 1982, and as far as I know it's still working today," said Tony, who lives in Gornal.

After completing a two-year degree course at the former Wolverhampton Polytechnic, Tony switched to working in education, and was rapidly head-hunted as design lecturer at Dudley College and then appointed as head of department. Meanwhile, he had taught himself to make electric guitars. "I had been asked to play with a group of musicians who were professionals or semi-pro, and I decided I needed something better than my old Squire bass. I bought one in Birmingham but didn't like the tone, and when I took it back I saw one hanging on the shop wall that used to be owned by Mark King, from Level 42. It sounded fantastic, but I looked at the price and it was £3,500 – a lot of money in the 1980s. So it went back on the wall.

"I thought, I'm a design engineer, I can learn how to make one. I did it in my spare time, lunch hours in the college workshop."

But in 1989 Tony suffered a massive heart attack. He tried to return to work but the stress was too great and he had to take early retirement. He carried on with the guitar making and repairs in his garden shed, and also worked part-time as a pastor at his church. His guitars, meanwhile, were building a small but appreciative audience among skilled players.

Then, eight years ago, his wife of 30 years died from cancer. "Our faith helped get us through, but I just didn't want to make guitars any more," said Tony. Sam, the youngest son and a talented musician in his own right, was also struggling. "There were days he just didn't want to get out of bed," said Tony. "He had made his first guitar at 13 or 14, so I said let's go and make guitars. I started making acoustics because it was something new for me, we could learn together."

Learning to make acoustic guitars well can take decades, but the Wrights had a stroke of luck. Tony had invented a device called a universal fret slotter that could accurately fit the frets on guitar necks to within one 4,000th of an inch. They have been sold globally and led to a call from world-renowned guitar maker George Lowden. Working on a series of projects at Lowden's factory in Northern Ireland resulted in a masterclass for Tony in the skills and intricacies of making acoustic guitars.

He's passed these skills on to Sam and to his musician friend Dan Clark, who offered the duo his garage in Wolverhampton as their workshop as the business outgrew the shed in Gornal. After months of work, which included turning the garage into a temperature and humidity-controlled environment, father and son are launching Lakestone Guitars – hoping to make at least two guitars a month. Currently, each guitar is the result of around 200 hours of work, although they are hoping to bring that down in their new workshop. Each one is handmade for the client, usually from rosewood but also from walnut, mahogany, spruce, cedar and rarer timbers such as lacewood from plane trees, or even Adirondack spruce. "That can cost £200 just for enough to make the face of the guitar's body, but it produces a lovely tone," Tony adds.

A dense African hardwood called wenge is sometimes used for fingerboards, but the Wrights are sticklers for ebony on acoustic guitar fretboards. The use of different woods is crucial in the distinct sound each guitar will produce, with bodies made of cedar, for example, producing a warmer sound.

Even on electric guitars, the wood makes a big difference. Maple, used for Fender-style guitars, will produce a brasher sound, while the mahogany used for a Gibson style instrument will offer a warmer tone.

Thinner

Alongside a craftsman's knowledge of his materials, Tony brings 21st century engineering nous. He likes making guitars with thinner necks and has come up with a way of using carbon fibre to strengthen them. He is also making guitars with a distinctive fan fret, like his mentor George Lowden. It improves the sound and is easier to play. The company name, Lakestone, comes from the old stone quarry near Tony's original shed in Gornal.

Depending on the woods used, a Lakestone Guitar will be priced at around £2,500. Tony said: "The business hasn't made a penny yet but I hope it will provide a living for Sam and I, particularly for Sam. I am 59, so I'll have my pension soon, but Sam is only 25. I want this to be a long-running business."

Alongside a business they love, father and son have also had some much-deserved happiness in their home lives.

Sam has married – with his pastor father conducting the service – and Tony too has remarried, bringing home a Canadian bride Lonnie after meeting online – "She says she got me cheap on eBay," he jokes.

"She comes from British Columbia, and after we were married her sister came across a batch of rare woods being sold, bought them and sent them to me. What a great sister-in-law is that! I couldn't believe it when I opened the parcel. It was stuff you just can't get over here." For details visit www.lakestoneguitars.co.uk

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Booming growth cited as jobless numbers fall

Pc's Great achievement

Pc Bloor and colleague Katy Sigley at the end of their run

A STAFFORDSHIRE Police officer who has breast cancer completed the Great North Run, just seven weeks after surgery for a double mastectomy.

Pc Karen Bloor, one of the force's dog handlers, was diagnosed last September 2014. She set herself the challenge of raising at least £1,000 for Breast Cancer Care by completing 12 events in 12 months.

Since then, she has been taking part in fundraising runs and triathlons while still undergoing treatment.

Together with colleague Katy Sigley the pair completed the event in three hours and 34 seconds. She said: "It's been a very emotional day but I'm very proud."

Karen has been supported in all her events by friends, family and colleagues who she refers to as her 'army of angels'.

She added: "I couldn't have done it without them. They have been so supportive. Taking part in an event with friends just makes things so much better."

After hitting the £10,000 mark in August, 52 year-old Karen has now raised her target to £15,000. Today's total stands at £11,300. Anyone wanting to help Karen achieve her fundraising goal can donate at www.justgiving.com/army-ofangels

BOOMING growth and job creation have been cited as unemployment was slashed across Staffordshire.

New figures from the Office of National Statistics show the county's jobless total fell by a third in just 12 months.

The ONS revealed the number of people claiming unemployment benefits such as Jobseeker's Allowance across the county fell to 4,519 in August, down from 6,730 from August 2014.

Staffordshire's overall claimant rate fell to its lowest number – 0.8 per cent of the population – since current records began. That is less than half the national claimant rate of 1.9 per cent.

In Cannock Chase the number rose by 22 from July's figure to 763, while in South Staffordshire the number of people claiming unemployment benefits was down 23 to 718.

County council economy leader Mark Winnington said: "We have a strong mix of bigger businesses with smaller enterprises which is fuelling our continued growth and creating more employment. Added to this is our focus on increasing people's skills to get better jobs and meet the demands of our key sector industries."

Cannock Chase MP, Amanda Milling welcomed the figures. She said: "This is fantastic news for the area and represents the growing recovery in the constituency since the crash of 2008.

"We will still work to reduce the unemployment number, but the next great challenge is to encourage new and better skilled jobs into our area to broaden the base of the local economy and give our local school and college leavers more choices."

South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson said: "This is amazing news and it just shows the economy continues to recover.

"We can't be complacent about it, we have to keep on building on what we have been doing."

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How should we check for links?

I BELIEVE Sympathiser has a serious lack of perception ("No room left for refugees", September 3).

The letter reads more like a racist response to the refugee situation rather than a 'sympathising' reaction.

You believe people should be checked for Islamic connections? How do you propose we do that? Perhaps check the 'Islamic connections' of the next Indian restaurant you go to.

And don't forget – since you are referring to terrorism – that it is not just Muslims who are capable of such an act. Sympathiser might want to look a little closer to home. There's plenty of people born here that don't pay tax. Where's the anger aimed at them?

I would love to open this discussion further.

People often forget Cannock is a multi-cultural town now, so ignorant responses to serious issues like this should be addressed.

TRUE SYMPATHISER
Cannock

Closure provides spark for new initiative

ON September 7 I attended the launch of SPARK at Boney Hay Primary School. It was a wonderful afternoon, where the hard work and dedication of so many young mothers and grandparents came to fruition, for both the Boney Hay and Springhill Centres.

When the Conservative-led County Council announced the closure of the Sure Start Children's Centres in Burntwood, it was a devastating blow, so the mothers and grandparents running them on a voluntary basis, sprang into action to ensure that the vital services continued. They have spent months organising themselves into a Community Interest Company, culminating in the launch of SPARK, providing a continuing service for babies and toddlers.

Labour County Councillor Sue Woodward worked alongside young mothers, including Esther Allen and Shevonne Hodson-Walker, to create the CIC, ensuring children, mothers, grandparents and child carers have the opportunity to meet and socialise. There are also a number of professional services available including ante-natal, post-natal and health visitor advice.

This shows community spirit in Burntwood is very much in evidence and proves what can be achieved by a group of well motivated people. This idea is a first in Staffordshire and in Boney Hay it provides a community space which we have never had before.

DI EVANS
Councillor, Boney Hay and Central

Corbyn a threat to Conservative Party

CONTRARY to the scaremongering attacks by the likes of Blair and the right wing press, Jeremy Corbyn is exactly what Labour Party members have been waiting for.

It is Corbyn's passionate, caring style of leadership that has made him so popular among grass root members. No matter what the opinion polls say, the Conservatives must be aware that Jeremy Corbyn is now a threat. He is already attacking their savage policy on welfare reforms and public sector cuts. He is offering an alternative to ordinary people in his promise to end austerity.

I am convinced the Tories will buckle under Corbyn's pressure, and introduce fairer ways of reducing the deficit. But if I am wrong and they stay complacent, continuing to punish the many who have the least in favour of the few who have the most – they will in my opinion lose the next general election.

PAUL WITTON
Cannock

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Cannock & Rugeley Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL
cannock.chron@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Fundraising collection

ON behalf of the Burntwood, Cannock and Lichfield branch of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association I would like to say thank you to staff for their co-operation and all the people who so kindly donated to our fundraising collection held at Morrisons, Burntwood on September 5 and 6.

The total amount raised was £1,092.32. If anyone is interested in helping GDBA fundraising call 01543 683937

PAT WILLIAMS
Chairman/collections secretary

Different legacies of leaders

STEVEN Gavrilovic says I insinuated he is a traitor to Labour, a party he admits to having no loyalty to ("Beware the patron saint of lost causes", September 10).

He was a member for nearly 30 years, during which Lord Kinnock lost two elections, Blair abandoned clause four, changed the party name and went to war on a lie.

Brown then ruined the economy, before losing an election.

He accepted all this, but left in 2012 arguing Miliband was useless. But he saved us from a war with the Syrian government, in which we would have been fighting alongside the jihadists. He introduced democracy to Labour by allowing their members to elect its leader.

Victory for Jeremy Corbyn means the working class can reclaim their party and put socialism back on the agenda.

KEVIN WILCOX
Burntwood

Lions bag charity cash at supermarket

CANNOCK Lions raised £360 of funds for distribution to various good causes from a bag pack at Morrisons store in Cannock, thanks to the generosity of the store's friendly shoppers.

The club would like to say a big 'thank you' for all the contributions received on what was an enjoyable day for all those who took part. Cannock Lions' very own lion was on the prowl during the day and was a big hit with young and old alike.

Cannock Lions meet on the first Wednesday of every month at the Roman Way Hotel. Anyone interested in joining or knowing more about Cannock Lions can contact membership chairman Mark Wyton on 0845 3334967.

LES THOMPSON
PR Officer
Cannock Lions

Policy on fly-tipping just not good enough

CANNOCK Chase Council's policy on dealing with fly-tipping is simply not good enough with only one prosecution in the past three years.

It is not only the cost of tens of thousands of pounds clearing up the mess, it is the potential loss of business, as many would not want to invest in an area where the council appears to care little about the environment.

It is also an insult to current businesses and residents that have made an effort to improve the area where they work and live. The council needs to significantly improve its prosecution rate and not make excuses for its failures.

PETER SPIERS
Cannock

Success of president's At Home day

Lichfield Rotary Club

Sew much pleasure from embroidery talk

Sylvia Everitt and president Lynne Tuckley with Sylvia's embroidery of Henry VIII

ON a recent visit to the club, District Governor Paul Jaspal spoke from his heart about the importance of Rotary to its members and the communities it serves, both locally and internationally.

Paul brought with him a sponsored calendar for every member to remind them that Rotary is the world's premier international service humanitarian organisation supporting education and economic development, providing clean water, improving health and sanitation, and promoting peace.

An example is that Rotarians have helped immunise more than two billion children against polio worldwide and as a result Africa has been declared polio free in the last year. There is still work ahead, though, to improve vaccination campaigns and surveillance.

Paul's message was that Rotary is not alone when trying to provide humanitarian support to communities needing help. We should look to other sponsors to aid all our efforts to help improve the lives of others less fortunate.

Members, wives and partners enjoyed some excellent wine and food when the president David Mayes held a splendid "at home" on a fine dayAugust day.

David Kershaw has arranged the first of the club's evening dinners for Associate Members at Netherstowe House, on Tuesday October 27 at 7 for 7.30 pm. The main purpose is to meet Associate Members who often cannot get to lunchtime meetings.

SI Cannock & District

MANY guests joined members of SI Cannock at their September speaker meeting, one of those guests being David Clay who had been invited along to celebrate his retirement as the Barns restaurant manager.

President Lynne Tuckley described David as "our honorary Soroptimister!" David had hosted meetings and greeted everyone by name and with their favourite drink for the last 10 years. He lit the Friendship Candle and told everyone how much he appreciated their friendship over the years and their good wishes on his retirement.

The speaker was Cannock artist and embroiderer Sylvia Everitt who spoke about and showed slides of her Cannock Millennium Embroideries. She said the Bayeux Tapestry was the inspiration for her 11 panels depicting the main historical events, products, people and properties of Staffordshire of the last millennium.

The embroideries each contain a century of achievements, which have been exhibited around the country and now reside at Lichfield Heritage Centre. She showed slides of the Millennium embroideries and also brought along two embroideries she had completed of Anne Boleyn and Henry VIII.

New members join the pride

Cannock Lions

CANNOCK Lions have had a membership boost with the arrival of five new cubs into the local pride.

The new members were enrolled at the September monthly meeting at the Roman Way Hotel.

Vice District Governor Steve Shields made a special visit to preside over the ceremony and welcomed each new member into the family of Lions with a warm welcome and a Lions pin badge.

Sheila Shakespeare, Lynda Gethin, Linda Hopkins, Ivan Poole and Sue Lawlor all joined after a recent recruitment drive and now look forward to becoming active members of the club and to serving the local community.

Cannock Lions meet on the first Wednesday of every month at the Roman Way.

Anyone interested in joining is asked to contact membership chairman Mark Wyton on 0845 3334967.

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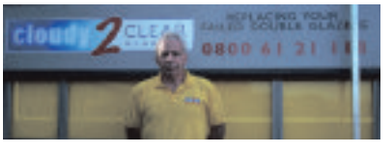
Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!



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Handball girls inspire £25k firm donation

The handball players with coach Nenad Popovic

A GROUP of eight school friends who started playing handball three years ago have inspired a company to donate £25,000 to develop the sport across the region.

Three of the group, all pupils at Cardinal Griffin RC High School, Cannock, are England team regulars. The girls are part of the West Midlands Academy, a route to elite handball, and have never lost against their own age group. They recently won the England Handball National County Under 16 championship, representing Staffordshire.

On the back of their success, Chasetown firm Cameron Homes has provided £25,000 over three years to encourage more girls to take up the sport. It will also supply free sports kit and equipment. The programme is being launched this month in four schools in Sutton Coldfield and will be rolled out to Walsall and others over the next 12 months.

Cameron Homes boss Ian Burns said: "We are delighted to provide on-going opportunities for an often under-represented group within our community."

Hundreds of JCB jobs at risk in slowdown

STAFFORDSHIRE digger giant JCB is planning to make up to 400 redundancies in the UK because of a rapid deterioration in world construction equipment markets.

JCB, which has its world headquarters at Rocester and JCB Cab Systems factory at Rugeley, has started a consultation with staff over the proposed job cuts.

The group said the slowdown in recent weeks has been marked, particularly in the emerging markets, resulting in a sharp fall in machine orders. It says it will attempt to minimise the impact by considering voluntary redundancies.

JCB chief executive Graeme Macdonald said: "Market conditions in the construction equipment sector have been difficult for some time, but they have worsened quite rapidly in recent weeks. The situation is not about to improve, certainly not in the short term, so we now need to take difficult but decisive actions to align overheads to lower sales forecasts.

"Regrettably, this will result in up to 400 staff positions becoming redundant across our UK businesses." In the first six months of the year, the market in Russia has dropped by 70 per cent, Brazil by 36 per cent and China by 47 per cent.

By John Corser

Parts of Europe are also struggling, with France down by 26 per cent.

Even the strong growth in the UK and North America has softened due to a fall in market confidence over the summer, which has been prompted to an extent by low oil and commodity prices in countries which depend on these resources to drive economic growth.

JCB's workforce in Staffordshire is 5,500 and the firm, which was founded in Uttoxeter in 1845, now employs 12,000 worldwide.

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Celebrations in store for colleagues

Sainsbury's staff who were treated for their long service with the store

TEN Cannock supermarket staff have been honoured for their long service.The 10 Sainsbury's colleagues were celebrating 260 years collectively and joined staff from other stores nationwide at the Double Tree Hotel in Milton Keynes to mark their achievements.

Colleagues Kevin Andrews, Tina Bridges, Yvonne Hassell, Jackie Jones, Graham Jones, Stella Lawless, Pam Martin, Caroline McDonald, and Jo Tufft, along with store manager Paul Davis were treated to a full weekend starting with free travel and accommodation and a celebratory three-course meal.

Eight of the colleagues were celebrating 25 years' service with two of the colleagues, Yvonne and Jackie reaching the 30-year milestone.

Health trust in library deal

A HEALTH trust is to take over libraries in Staffordshire after council chiefs sought volunteers to run them.

South Staffordshire and Shropshire Healthcare NHS Foundation (SSSFT) is to take on sites at Hednesford, Heath Hayes and Norton Canes, as well as in Brewood and Baswich.

They are among a batch of eight community libraries which have been awarded to SSSFT around the county. It is yet to be decided exactly what services will be provided at the libraries.

Health bosses will now speak with residents to decide on what should be run from the venues.

Staffordshire County Council revealed last year it was looking to save £1.3m over three years and was looking for volunteers to take on scores of libraries. The trust will now engage with people about how they would like to see services developed. Mark Cardwell, lead for social care at SSSFT, said "We are committed to understanding and supporting our local communities and believe our involvement with these key local services will help us to get to know how we can best meet the needs of local people."

Under the plans, 20 of the council's 43 libraries will be managed and staffed by the library service, while 23 will be run by volunteers.

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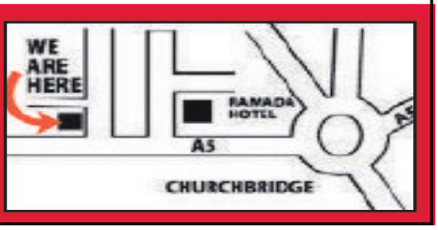


Blow by Blowers account of rogues' life on road

A BASTION of Test Match Special, veteran broadcaster Henry Blofeld has spent more than 30 years in the commentary box and seen in excess of 700 games.

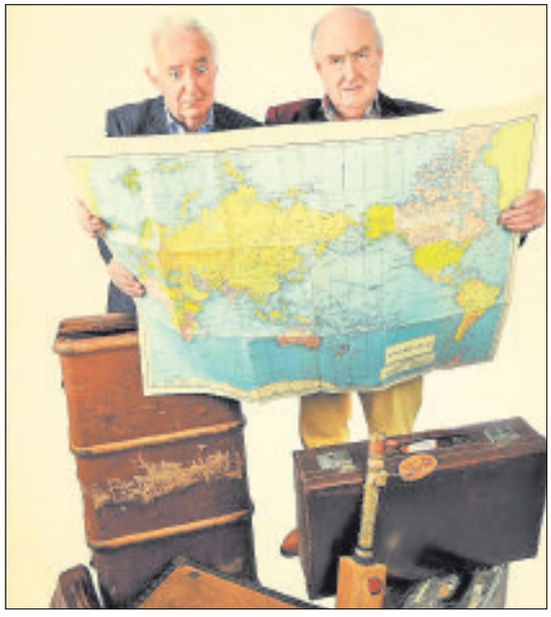
So no doubt he has a few tales to tell.

Now, he and Raymond Baxter, TMS producer for more than three decades, will relate them to fans across the Midlands.

Blowers, as he is affectionately known, stresses their tour, Rogues on the Road, 'will be TMS, but not about the cricket' and will be lady-friendly.

Speaking to The Chronicle ahead of the tour, Henry said: "It's not about cricket at all. It's about some of the stories and things we have got up to on the road."

Stories include transvestites in Sao Paulo and coming out to bat as an emergency number 11 during one particular England tour.



Test Match Special legends Peter Baxter, left, and Henry Blofeld

Additional

The pair have already bowled audiences over with a 14-date run at the Edinburgh Festival, though they will be playing over time during the theatre tour with an hour's additional play.

The pair pad up at Wolverhampton's Civic Hall on October 5, but will also appear at the Warwick Arts Centre on November 9 and the Mac, Birmingham on November 27, areas that Henry knows only too well.

"I remember covering games at Molineux in the 1960s while reporting for the Guardian and have seen people like Derek Dougan there," he said.

Edgbaston is closer to home – not just because of some of the great cricketing moments he has witnessed, particularly the Ashes Test of 2005 – but because of family ties. The ground was home to Warwickshire legend Freddie Calthorpe, from the family of the wealthy landowners. Henry is a distant relative and even boasts the middle name Calthorpe.

Even at the age of 75, Henry shows no sign of slowing down, staging shows across the globe. "I have done shows all over this country and in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Pakistan and I really enjoy them."

For Wolverhampton show tickets, call 0870 320 7000 or visit www.wolvescivic.co.uk. For the MAC show, call 01213 232 446 or book online at www.macbirmingham.co.uk

By Mark Shipp

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Train named in Stephen's honour

Jane Sutton gives a thumbs-up as she unveils the Stephen Sutton plaque on the Virgin train in Birmingham

A TRAIN that will travel up and down the UK has been named in memory of inspirational Burntwood teenager Stephen Sutton.

Stephen's mother Jane unveiled the nameplate last week. It is proudly displayed on the side of the Pendolino service run by Virgin Trains.

The train pulled up at Birmingham International Station for the special ceremony.

Jane said: "Standing here to unveil a nameplate bearing Stephen's name, makes me an unbelievably proud mum.

"I understand it's only the fourth time Virgin Trains has named one of its Pendolino trains in honour of an individual, so I do appreciate what a privilege this is.

"Thousands of people will see this train travelling up and down the West Coast Main Line which will only help to reinforce Stephen's Story and remind people of Stephen's message – 'to make the most of every opportunity'.

"Having a train named after him was certainly not on Stephen's bucket list. But maybe it should be added posthumously?"

The Pendolino travels the length of the UK from London to Scotland and will see the teenager's name travel around 300,000 miles in the next 12 months.

The company decided to name the service after the teenager who helped to raise more than £5m for charity, describing him as a 'very extraordinary young man' who 'touched the hearts and minds of so many'.

Phil Cavender, general manager at Virgin Trains, said: "Stephen was an incredible person, someone from whom we can all learn so much.

"His train will be seen the length and breadth of the country from London to Liverpool, Manchester, Scotland and of course both his and our home, the West Midlands.

"It is only right Stephen's inspiring story lives on and we are overwhelmed by the support of his family in allowing us to name one of our Pendolinos in his honour."

Stephen died in May 2014 aged just 19 after battling cancer. He set out to raise £10,000 for those who looked after him and did a bucket list of things he wanted to achieve.

Before his death, he raised £3m for Teenage Cancer Trust and that figure has since raised to £5.5m.

Pick up tips on safety and wellbeing

STAFFORDSHIRE Fire and Rescue Service and Age UK South Staffordshire together with other agencies and voluntary groups are staging a free Community Safety and Wellbeing Day at Haling Dene Centre, in Penkridge, on Thursday, October 1.

The event, which is open to all from 10am to 2pm, will offer fire, home and road safety information, advice, demonstrations and giveaways, exercise, wellbeing and nutritional information, blood pressure checks, and food demonstrations.

Anyone attending over the lunchtime period will be invited to have a free homemade soup lunch. Also present will be the PCSOs, Village Agent, Good Life, PACE and the Stroke Association.

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service is undertaking events across the county to raise the profile of home, personal and road safety using its own fire stations and community venues. Visit www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk for further details.

October 1 is also Older Persons Day, and there will be themed promotions in the county. Anyone interested in volunteering is welcome to attend.

More information about the event is available on 01785 788496.

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Archie picked as postcard winner

Winner Archie Wood, aged 11, with centre manager of Cannock Shopping Centre, Natal Chapman

CANNOCK Shopping Centre has announced that Archie Wood, aged 11, from Cannock is the winner of its recent 'Postcard of Your Summer' competition.

He received his prize at a special ceremony held at the centre last Thursday.

Archie was awarded a set of Lego items, which included a City Utility Shuttle Playset and City Helicopter Pursuit.

The centre, which hosted the competition as part of its summer entertainment, invited local children to sum up their summer in picture form for the chance to win a range of goodies.

Archie said: "I can't believe I have won this competition.

"Thank you so much for my prizes – I have wanted the City Utility Shuttle toy for months and can't believe it's finally mine.

"I'm so grateful to the centre for choosing me as their winner and can't wait to try out my new Lego toys."

Natal Chapman, centre manager of Cannock Shopping Centre, said: "Congratulations on winning, Archie.

"We would like to thank everyone who took part in our competition.

"We had some fantastic entries and a lot of effort was made by each of those that entered."

Parcels firm aiming to open village HQ in 2017

THE parcels, mail and logistics group DX Freight wants to open its £36 million distribution centre in Essington in summer 2017.

The firm – formerly Nightfreight – is trying to get planning permission for an HQ on 44 acres in Hobnock Road. However, the plans have caused fury in the community, with villagers firmly against them.

By John Corser

Residents point to extra traffic and noise and the loss of green belt land.

DX chief executive Petar Cvetkovic said: "The hub is intended to replace DX's current sites at Willenhall and will create substantial additional capacity and significant operational benefits, including increased efficiencies and enhanced customer service levels.

"Subject to planning consent, our intention is to have the new hub operational by the summer of 2017," he added.

If the move gets the nod, DX Freight would transfer its staff from its two existing sites in Willenhall in a process due to take 12 months.

Last week, 500 residents attended a fiery four-hour meeting over the issue, saying DX Freight was not welcome in Essington.

Meanwhile, the company has reported a fall in income but a return to pre-tax profit for its last financial year. The DX group saw turnover slip from £304.2m to £297.5m for the 12 months to the end of June.

DX's revenue from parcels and freight declined by 5.8 per cent to £154.1m.

It went from a £55.7m pre-tax loss in the previous year to a £24.8m profit.

The group said it had been a satisfactory performance and it has made continued progress with the OneDX programme, which will see all its trading entities integrated under one company structure.

The board says it is confident of its strategy to deliver long-term growth, and Mr Cvetkovic said: "We have continued to make steady progress with our OneDX programme."

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Tips on preventing pets' oral disease

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

Rebecca Hodson, Registered Veterinary Nurse at Melbourne Vets

ORAL disease, caused by the build up of plaque and tartar, has become the major health problem for dogs and cats.

With your help, this can be prevented and your pets can have healthy teeth and gums throughout their lives. This can make them at less risk from developing other diseases such as kidney and liver.

A nutritious diet, regular brushing at home and regular dental check-ups with your vet or dental nurse, will help you to prevent oral disease.

Additionally the choice of food you feed your pet can have a massive impact.

Tartar

A good quality dry food, rather than a moist or canned one, can help stop the formation of bacterial plaque and aid its removal so it can't harden into tartar.

Dogs also need to have their teeth brushed in order to eliminate the dental plaque that can cause tooth decay and the formation of tartar, which can lead to gum disease.

It is important to use special dog toothpaste containing either enzymes or chlorhexidine.

Never use made-for-humans toothpaste as the fluoride in it is toxic to dogs.

You should begin a regular, daily brushing routine when your puppy is between six and eight weeks of age. Even older dogs can be trained to accept having their teeth brushed.

You simply need to introduce the activity gradually and make the experience a positive one for your pet. Reassure and praise them throughout the process and reward them with a very special treat when it's finished.

Some cats will also tolerate brushing and can be taught from a young age to make this easier.

Always be careful to start slowly and not get bitten. Our top tip for successful tooth brushing is rubbing the toothpaste into the bristles to stop your pet just licking it off.

We also offer free dental clinics with out nurses, who can demonstrate can tooth brushing in our nurse dental clinics.

£120k director post scrapped

A £120,000 director's post at Staffordshire County Council has been axed under plans to reduce costs. The decision has been made as part of a shake-up of the authority's management structure.

The position of director of strategy and customer services is no longer on the books following the re-structure which was approved by cabinet members.

The restructure sees the council's top team slimmed down from six directors to five. The authority needs to make savings of £229 million over the next five years. The post cut has been vacant since April 1.

The move is the latest in a series of cuts introduced by the council this year, including closing 43 children's centres, saving £3m with the loss of four jobs. Council tax was also increased by 1.95 per cent.

Alan White, cabinet member for health, care and wellbeing, said: "I think it's important to place on record that there has been a lot of consideration into this and is not something that has just been grabbed out of the sky. It's a structure for the future."

GP services are lined up for hospital's A&E department

GP services could be introduced in the A&E department at Stafford's County Hospital, with a major announcement over its future expected at Christmas.

By Carl Jackson

The department has provided a 14-hour emergency service since 2011 but Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt raised hopes that 24-hour cover would return during a visit to the town on the general election campaign trail.

Hospital bosses say a return to round-the-clock services would be impossible, but changes are planned.

At a public meeting, health chiefs at the University Hospitals of North Midlands Trust said they are looking at a range of options, including extending the opening hours at A&E and introducing GP services, but would not elaborate on the plans.

Michael Tyson, of the Baswich and Weeping Cross community group, quizzed bosses about the A&E department at the board's annual general meeting this month.

Concerned

He said: "Most people would say they are happy with health services in Staffordshire in the main, but the one bug-bear remains the issue of 24-hour A&E at Stafford.

"Most people are concerned about where they will go if they are ill in the night? Will it be Wolverhampton, Burton-on-Trent or somewhere else? That is the main concern I have heard. I think a lot of people would feel better if there was 24-hour cover of some sort, even if it was a case of just finding out what the problem is before sending patients somewhere else."

In response, UHNM chief executive Mark Hackett said: "We have picked that up as a concern. We will be announcing changes in relation to that around Christmas.

"We are looking at options, looking at the idea of GPs based in the A&E department.

"Because so many services have moved from Stafford, supporting inpatient care, it is not possible to deliver a full consultant-led A&E. We haven't got the back-up."

Trust spokesman Andrew Ashcroft was unable to shed anymore light on the forthcoming announcement, adding: "At the moment it is very much a case of watch this space."

Work begins on memorial centre

CONSTRUCTION work on a £15.7 million remembrance centre at the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas is under way.

The centre, designed by Glenn Howells Architects, will provide expanded visitor facilities at the Royal British Legion site which has more than 300 memorials and 30,000 maturing trees in 150 acres.

Building company Stepnell is working on the project which will take a year to deliver.

As well as the new remembrance and learning centre, there will be a new outdoor area called Heroes' Square. The project is expected to see annual visitor numbers rise from 300,000 a year to 500,000.

The new building will have a limestone facade, echoing the Portland Stone of the nearby Armed Forces Memorial.

Mark Wakeford, joint managing director of Stepnell, said: "This is a very exciting and poignant project for Stepnell, which has a long history of supporting our service men and women that dates back to the company's founding in 1867."

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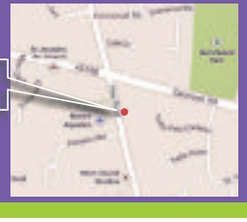

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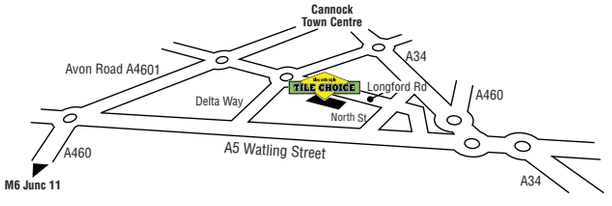

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Young citizens give back to community

The group of young volunteers who took part in the National Citizenship Scheme

A GROUP of young volunteers have reached out to their community during the summer holiday by helping to re-decorate two Burntwood children's centres.

The youngsters, from Lichfield, transformed Boney Hay and Springhill Children's Centres, as part of their National Citizen Service programme. They painted a play room and have brightened some garden space with colourful artwork, to be enjoyed by parents and children.

Delivered locally by APM Coachright, NCS is a government-supported project that encourages young people to challenge themselves and develop personal and social skills through a variety of activities. The programme gives young people the opportunity to become actively involved with the communities in which they live.

Joshua Williams aged 16, from Arthur Terry School loved doing the NCS Social Action Project at the centres and felt that it was 'nice to give something back to the community'.

Alice Davies, also 16, from King Edwards VI School, was also pleased to have had fun, whilst developing her own confidence and people skills. Student and team-mate Martin Playle-de Vries said he would continue to help the centre, if they need more volunteers in the future.

Police help centre at gipsy site defended

CASH-STRAPPED Staffordshire Police has defended launching a new drop-in service at a gipsy camp – after closing front desks at three stations to cut costs.

The force confirmed it was using an existing portable building at a traveller site in Linehouses near Kidsgrove to provide a one-hour per month advice service, but declared no police funding had been used for the scheme.

By Carl Jackson

In June, police bosses announced front counters would be closed at Chasetown Police Station, as well as Tunstall and Stoke, while opening hours would be slashed at other stations including Cannock and Stafford to save £1million.

Project

The force stressed the project was not a 'station' but one of hundreds of drop-in services throughout the county which was open to everyone – not just travellers on the site.

Chief Inspector Adrian Roberts said: "We are always looking for good opportunities to engage with the local communities we serve and use existing buildings for 'drop in centres' where appropriate to enhance and localise meeting venues for our officers and public.

"The Linehouses drop-in surgery will be utilised by other partner agencies including education, health and social services as well as the police," he said.

"Some of the other agencies have been holding regular drop in sessions on the site for some time with local police officers frequenting the site on an ad hoc basis.

"This venue is not exclusive to those who live on the site. It is open to any local resident seeking police advice or reassurance or who wishes to raise or report any concerns."

Dan Newton, centre, from Court Bank Farm with, left, WI vice-president Dorothy Poynton and, right, president Gaynor Dixon in front of the new sign

Villagers turn out for launch of sign

GENTLESHAW WI has staged a grand unveiling for a new welcome sign to the village.

The ceremony at Hayfield Hill was a proud day for members who started thinking of ideas 12 months ago to mark the centenary of the movement. Their remit was to come up with something that would benefit the community of Cannock Wood.

Thelma Walters, vice-president of the group, said: "The sign has the WI logo on it and I think the main thrill of it is when we are all dead and gone people will know the WI was 100 years old and everyone will know where Cannock Wood is.

"We find that cars and lorries get terribly lost in this area. If you are down at the Redmore Inn and turn right you end up in Gentleshaw and if you turn left you end up in Cannock Wood. But until now there was nothing to let you know where you are. Cannock Wood really is a lovely place to live – there is always something happening."

The idea for a sign creating a gateway to the village came about in March. It was the brainchild of Cannock Wood resident Andy Newton who agreed to pay for the sign and have it put up on his own land.

An initial unveiling took place before a celebratory village fete which generated more than £3,000 to be ploughed into the local area. A further gathering took place at the sign before some members attended an afternoon tea at Chase Golf, Health Club and Spa to celebrate.

Ms Walters added: "I must thank Andy Newton for sponsoring the sign. He is a great asset to the village and a great help.

"He is always enthusiastic about what we are doing and is very generous with letting us used his land. The next stage is to have a garden at the base of the sign which the WI will maintain."

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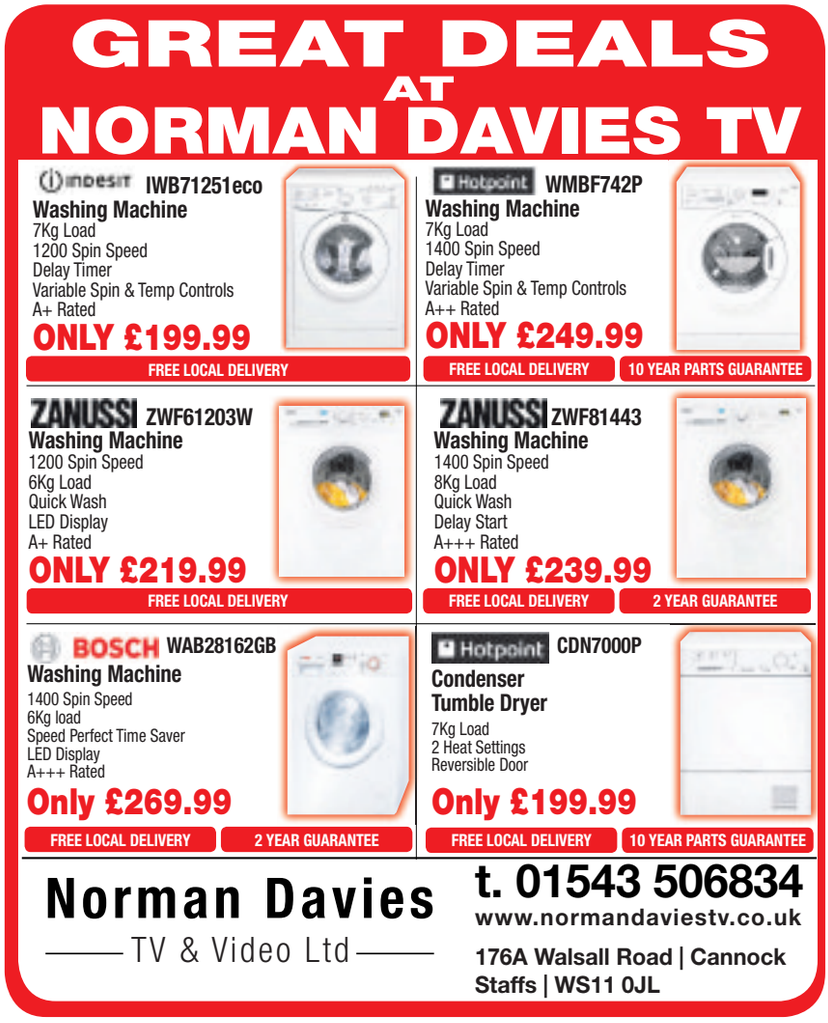

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Along with their team, Paul and Sheila offer everyone who visits a warm welcome and are pleased to announce that the restaurant has recently received a Health & Hygiene rating of 5. This is the highest any restaurant can get and it goes to show that all food within the premises is prepared hygienically as possible.

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The shop, which was first established four and a half years ago, prides itself on its customer service and especially it's high quality tailoring alterations service. We professionally alter everything from suits and evening wear, to school wear and soft furnishings, at competitive prices. Most alterations are ready for collection within 7 days .
Other services include drycleaning and sewing machine repairs and servicing.
We are open 6 days a week and you can find us at Stone Cross, Penkridge, opposite Sainsburys and a few doors down from the White Hart pub, so do pop in and browse!
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Meat has been our business since day one and we prepare many of our products to traditional recipes including home-made sausages, home cooked meats and home-cured bacon.

Our aim has always been to provide good quality products, so we take pride in the sourcing, hanging and preparing of our meat. Meal times are an essential part of our everyday lives, and whether you are looking for a quick weekday meal solution, or a special cut of the finest meat to entertain friends and family, we can provide you with a product that you can trust to deliver a tasty solution.

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We offer a large selection of pizza's with either a thin crust, deep pan or stuffed crust base. All our pizzas are prepared with fresh dough on a daily basis using fresh quality ingredients. So whether it's a 'Margarita' or 'Mexicano', we have a topping to suit all tastes!

We are open 7 days a week including bank holidays and we also offer a free local delivery service within 3 miles on orders over £12, if under £12 a delivery charge of £2 will be applied.

DILSHAD

The Dilshad is a contemporary award winning Indian Restaurant in Cannock Staffordshire and continues to reward its loyal diners by serving some of the best authentic Asian Cuisines. It is important to remember that The Dilshad was established in 1979 and was one of the first curry houses in Cannock - now decades later its reputation in Cannock, Staffordshire is unassailable.

On entering the restaurant, diners will instantly be amazed by the elegant dÃ©cor through a variance of rich and sensual colours creating a truly positive ambiance. After being greeted with smiles and handshakes diners are made to feel completely at ease.

The Dilshad is not just your usual high street curry house - the head chef has put together an extensive menu which is full of excitement and offers a plethora of choice with mouth-watering cuisines separated into regions and types. All the staff members are very pleasant with excellent knowledge of Eastern Asian Cuisines and are always ever quick to offer their services.

The restaurant is fully licensed boasting a wine menu offering a great selection of liquors to compliment your meal.

Tony Uddin the owner states, "We emphasise on the quality of our food and service, so if you find that your order takes a bit longer than average, please be patient because our Chefs thrive on making sure that you are served only the best tasting dishes'.

The achievements and awards is an example that The Dilshad Indian Restaurant will never lose its appetite and strive for more success. We employ some of the Best Chef's in our kitchens, creating dishes unrivalled in quality and taste to trigger those taste buds!

CHADSMOOR OPTICAL LTD

Chadsmoor Optical Ltd, was opened about two years ago by registered optician Mike Biddle, with forty years experience in the profession and having owned several practices in the Wolverhampton area, Chadsmoor was the perfect location. 'I felt that there was a need for a spectacle maker in the area, we do not do sight testing, but make up superb, bespoke spectacles at prices that are really affordable'.

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One of the areas Chadsmoor Optical specialises in putting new lenses into patients own frames. Mike says 'although we have many new frames it is quite possible to make big savings by using your own frames, which may be only a year or two old'

Chadsmoor Optical takes spectacle vouchers, which may cover the whole cost of spectacles.

In conclusion, Chadsmoor Optical is an ethical practice that will go out of its way to offer the best service, best quality and best price.

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The system directs the nearest vehicle to our clients in order to cut out long waits for taxis. There is a call back system in operation so you don't have to wait around outside for your taxi. Customer safety is always our no 1 priority. We always aim to offer our customers the first class service they deserve. We also undertake contract and courier work with a competitive price structure in place. Please don't hesitate

to call for further information. Our office is based in Chadsmoor and has been established since 1992 with the director being a local gent. All of our drivers are locally based and have extensive knowledge of the local area. We don't do gimmicks but what we do do is offer our customers a 1st class service which we will always strive to achieve.

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Surreal – Will Bryan during his challenge

All-action Will gets a hero's welcome

HE ran up the country's highest mountains, spent a week homeless and rowed and cycled more than 100 miles in 11 days – to help give a four year-old girl a brighter future.

Will Bryan from Church Street, Cannock, was given a hero's welcome home after completing the epic 11 Day Challenge in aid of Chesyln Hay youngster Aimee Heath who has cerebral palsy.

Will's incredibly testing challenge, which began on September 2, saw him run to the peaks of the UK's three highest mountains – Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon – a total climb of 9,800ft over about 27 miles.

Then a day later he began seven days and nights sleeping rough on the streets of Cannock before rowing a total of 53 miles from Coven to Stratford-upon-Avon on a two-day trip and then returning home after tackling a 52-mile cycle ride.

The 30-year-old has so far raised more than £1,100 for his efforts, with more funds expected to come through in the coming days.

The money will help pay for a life-changing Eye-Gaze device for Aimee which uses a small infra-red camera to track eye movement as she looks at words and letters on a screen. This is then converted into spoken words.

Aimee contracted meningitis at five days old in July 2011. The illness developed into cerebral palsy which affected her limbs and left her unable to walk and talk.

On his Three Peaks challenge

Sleeping rough in Cannock

Aimee Heath

Varied

Days after completing the remarkable challenge, Will said it was one of the toughest things he had done in his life. "I feel so proud to have done it – it feels great and very rewarding," he said.

"It was so varied what I did that it took so long to adjust. It was a very surreal experience. When I was doing the homelessness phase I found a lot of people were quite judgmental and gave me funny looks which at times was hard for me to go through.

"The most difficult part was at the mountains. A lot of people walk the Three Peaks but I decided to run them and it was really difficult.During the challenge Will used his Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages to update his followers with the progress by uploading videos and pictures.

This is not the first time Will has shown remarkable bravery in helping other people. In recent months he ran three marathons in three consecutive days on the Jurassic Coast and cycled the width of Britain in a single day.

There were scenes of celebration when dozens of people lined the streets of Great Wyrley to see him cross the finish line. The event was organised by Aimee's parents Charlotte and Stewart.

Will said: "It was amazing to come back to that reception. Charlotte put up a banner which was put up like a finish line which was really nice. I wasn't expecting it."

Aimee's delighted mum, Charlotte, said she was amazed what Will had done for her daughter.

"What Will has done for Aimee is absolutely amazing," the 26-year-old said.

"We didn't know him several weeks ago, now it is like he's part of the family."

Although the challenge is over, donations can still be made at www.willbryan.co.uk/aimee

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For a traditional, contemporary or modern fitted bedroom, contact us for a free design and no nonsense quote, we guarantee that you will be delighted.

RB WINDOWS

Celebrating 30 years of Beautiful Home Renovations

RB Windows is throwing a Grand Opening Weekend on October 10th& 11th to celebrate an impressive 30 years of trading. This truly family-run business is headed by Russell Benton and Samantha Pearce, son & daughter of Janet and Roger Benton who started RB Windows in 1985. RB are celebrating three decades of successful business by inviting past and new customers down to the showroom for vintage tea and cake plus a preview of their newly redeveloped showroom. On display will be a huge range of Solidor composite doors, the new Guardian Insulated Roof, Orangeries and Livin Room Conservatories. They are also offering some great deals on Conservatories and Orangeries plus a prize draw for a Free composite door and a Free bi-fold doorwith any Orangery order places this weekend.

Roger Benton commented: "As the company director for the past 30 years I feel it is an apt time for me to take a back seat role and allow my son Russell Benton and my daughter Samantha Pearce to now be at the forefront of the company. Both have new and innovative ideas which will continue to grow the business. I truly feel the reason for our success over the years is thatwe have had a clear knowledge of what our customers want as well as continuing to move with the market. My son& daughter understand this market completely and my son in particular coming from a building background has the complete knowledge to specialise even further into our new products such as the Guardian Insulated Roofand Living Room. It has been my ambition to allow my children to take this business further by ensuring they have a clear knowledge of what is needed of them and I feel this is the right time."

Be Inspired by RB Windows

Come and visit their newly refurbished showroom, where you can take a look around the neworangery, the Guardian Insulated Roof and the Living Room, mock orangery and self-clean glass roofs. Their displays are designed to assist you in making the right choices for your home. Theyalso have a variety of cane furniture designs ranging from classic to contemporary and compact to large, plus a comprehensive range of furniture fabrics and frame colours to choose from.
Over the years RB has expanded from a small double-glazing company into the thriving business it is today. Not only do they supply orangeries but they provide many services such as installing UPVC windows, composite doors, conservatories and the Guardian Insulated Roof. They also have an in-house building team who can complete all kinds of building works from extensions and garage conversions to simple garden walls. They are the complete Home Renovation Company.
RB Windows is based on the Walsall Road in Bridgtown, Cannock. Visit their showroom or call for a free no obligation quotation on 01543 467146, alternatively you can visit the website atwww.rbwindows.co.uk. Whatever your requirements their friendly staff are available to offer help and advice.

FLORIDA SUN

Florida Sun Tanning and Beauty has been established in Cannock since 2005 and has a loyal base of customers who appreciate the friendly service, quality equipment and great value prices.
The sun beds are high quality professional beds that deliver results. There are 2 stand up sun beds and one lie down. The sun beds have 250W tubes that are regularly rotated and changed to guarantee consistent results for users. The quality of the results has ensured customers travel from throughout Cannock and beyond to Florida Sun Tanning and Beauty.
The salon staff ensure a welcoming, friendly atmosphere for all over 18s with many regular male and female customers.
Florida Sun Tanning and Beauty have a range of creams and gels to suit each customer with experienced staff on hand to advice if required.
Beauty Treatments at Florida Sun
In addition to the tanning services Florida Sun also provide a beauty service following requests from customers. The range of beauty treatments include nails, facials, waxing and massage. The qualified beautician takes pride in delivering great value beauty services that put a smile on every customers face. The beauty room is proving popular with new and old customers alike and it is always advisable to book to avoid disappointment.
Florida Sun Tanning and Beauty also provide beauty treatments in the comfort of customers' homes to ensure those unable to reach the salon do not miss out. The mobile beauty service is available throughout Cannock and the wider area.
Beauty treatment parties are also available for girls to get together and have a catch up over a bottle of wine whilst being pampered. Please call the salon for further details and bookings.

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Specsavers' famous 2 for 1 glasses offer gives customers unbeatable choice and value. At Specsavers, 19 Cannock Shopping Centre, you can choose any two pairs of glasses from the £69 to £169 ranges, and pay for just one. That includes designer glasses which start from just £99.
Now that summer is finally here, the offer also includes prescription sunglasses. Nothing says summer style like great looking sunglasses - and you'll find your perfect pair in our extensive range.
Just choose glasses from £369 to £169 and you can have a second pair from the same frame range or below with dark tinted (grade 3) prescription lenses and UV filter, usually £24, for free. Both pairs just need to be to the same prescription. Cosmetic tints and reactions lenses available for an extra charge, please ask in store for details.
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Market day at church

GREAT Wyrley Wesley Methodist Church, in Walsall Road, Great Wyrley, is holding a Mini Market on Saturday from 10.30am to midday. Various stalls will be on show including raffle, bric-a-brac, tombola, groceries, cakes and local crafts. There will also be a farm fresh fruit and vegetable stall. Refreshments will be available. Admission is free. The church will also be hosting a Coffee Morning for Macmillan on Wednesday from 11am to midday. This will take place after the usual Wednesday Walking for Health, 10-11am. Visitors will be very welcome.

Large rise in upheld hospital complaints

THE number of complaints upheld over shoddy care at Staffordshire and Black Country hospitals has more than doubled in a year.

In 2014-15, 29 complaints were partly or fully endorsed at five trusts, compared with 13 the previous year, despite the total number of complaints to the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman falling, from 248 to 240.

By Peter Madeley

The ombudsman received 22 inquiries regarding care received at Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust, down from 25 in 2013-14.

Overall, four complaints were fully or partly upheld, up from three last year.

Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust saw a steep rise in complaints from 33 to 52 with the number of complaints upheld doubling to six over the last year.

Najam Rashid, associate medical director at the trust, said: "The trust cares for and supports more than 800,000 patients on average each year and we actively encourage them to make a complaint if they feel our usual high standards have fallen short.

Errors

"We really value the opportunity to work with patients, their families and carers and the wider community to bring about improvements to our services and complaints are just one way in which we can work in partnership with them to do this."

Nationally, there was a 13 per cent rise in complaints, with errors in diagnosis, poor treatment and lack of communication topping the list.

Poor attitudes and behaviour of staff were factors in 20 per cent of cases, with non-medical care a factor in almost half of all complaints received.

Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust saw the number of complaints made to the ombudsman fall from 69 in 2013-14 to 62 last year, although the number of upheld investigations rose from two to nine.

The ombudsman received 37 inquires regarding care at Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, up from 31 in 2013-14, with three complaints upheld following 10 investigations.

Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals (SWBH) NHS Trust saw the number of complaints made to the ombudsman fall from 90 in 2013-14 to 67 over the last 12 months.

Investigations were held into 13 of the complaints, up from 12 the previous year. Overall, seven complaints were fully or partly upheld, up from two the previous year.

Karen Beechey, head of PALS and complaints at SWBH said: "We welcome the report and note the number of initial inquiries made to them about our trust has fallen in the last financial year.

"The figures demonstrate that SWBH is working hard to resolve complaints locally."

Force's retired dogs get helping paw at Big Jog

STAFFORDSHIRE'S Retired Police Dog Fund staged a fundraising event for dogs and humans at Chasewater.

The Big Dog Jog saw four- and two-legged runners tackling either a 5km or 10km course to raise money for the fund which was set up two years ago to support retired police dogs and their owners.

This is the first time the fund has held such an event and it proved a big success with more than 170 runners and 80 dogs taking part to raise funds.

Retired police dogs Finn, Seamus and Nex took part to support their retired pals along with serving police dog Jasper and many 'civilian' dogs.

Staffs Police Cadets provided valuable support to the event by acting as marshalls on the course. Staffordshire Police's mascot Kash was there to lend a paw and proved a big success with the children.

Staffordshire Retired Police Dog Fund is run by volunteers and is totally independent of Staffordshire Police. Anyone interested in finding out more about the fund and its activities can follow the Twitter account @staffsretiredPD and Facebook: Retired Staffs Police Dog Fund.

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Daring phone call led to a golden marriage

Hednesford couple Barrie and Valerie Gough celebrate their golden wedding

WHEN a shy Barrie Gough called the hairdressers where his future wife Valerie worked to see if she would go on a date, he had no idea it would define the rest of his life.

The Hednesford couple, who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary tomorrow, grew up in the same street in Wednesfield but did not speak until they were 19.

After picking his mother up from a hair appointment, Barrie went away and plucked up the courage to ask Valerie if she would go to an Acker Bilk concert with him at Wolverhampton Civic Hall. The couple, who are both 72, were dating for three years before they got married, in a ceremony at St John's Church, Essington.

They now have two children, Jayne and Simon, and three grandchildren, Henry, Joseph and Isabelle.

Valerie said: "My first impression of Barrie was that he was very shy.

"I decided to forget about that and go out on the date with him. I very quickly fell in love."

Barrie said: "The only thing I can say in regards to staying married for so long is that we literally do everything together, our lives are one."

The couple on their wedding day

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Costa creatures at retail park launch

From left, Amy Clancy, store manager Nicola McKenzie and Thomas Jackson at the new Costa Coffee

A DRIVE-THROUGH coffee shop has opened on a new multi-million pound retail park in Cannock.

Costa Coffee on the Gateway Retail Park at the Churchbridge interchange has welcomed customers through its doors for the first time.

Animal characters were at the store to welcome customers at the weekend and food and drink samples were handed out to customers as part of the launch event. Nicola McKenzie, store manager, said: "It has been brilliant to open our brand new Cannock drive-through store and provide 15 to 20 new job opportunities for the local area."

"It's been amazing to have the characters at the store to launch the opening, creating a real family friendly environment."

SofaWorks opened on the same site in July, and TKMaxx opened last month.

MP has moles removed

LICHFIELD MP Michael Fabricant has had more suspicious moles removed since having surgery earlier this year to treat skin cancer.

The Conservative MP said he goes for check-ups at Queen's Hospital in Burton every few months and he recently had moles removed which looked suspicious and could potentially turn cancerous.

He said: "I had a lump under my eyebrow. That was always down to come off." He publicly disclosed his fight with skin cancer five months ago and said since then it had helped a voter in his constituency.

Mr Fabricant said: "A lady told me that her husband had a mark on his forehead and that she had read an article about my problems.

Decision

"She made him go to the doctor, who referred him, and he did have a malignant melanoma.

"It's important to get checked early. It justifies my decision to go public with it."

Mr Fabricant was initially found to be suffering from a malignant melanoma after spotting two moles on his stomach which were getting bigger.

This type of skin cancer is potentially life-threatening as it can spread to other parts of the body and be difficult to treat.

But Mr Fabricant had surgery a week before the general election which has left him with a 6in scar.

He has since had five more biopsies on his eye, leg, shoulder and abdomen.

MOSELEYS
Solicitors

New Member of Team
Jason Alcock

Moseleys Solicitors are delighted to announce that Jason Alcock has rejoined the Firm in order to head up the Employment Law and Dispute Resolution Department.

Jason is a solicitor, and rejoins us from a commercial firm in the West Midlands after 7 years. He has experience in advising and representing clients in disputes both before the Employment Tribunals and the Courts in England and Wales including bringing and defending claims for unfair dismissal, wrongful dismissal, breach of contract, discrimination claims, unlawful deductions, injunctive relief, debt matters, commercial contract disputes, contentious probate issues, land disputes, to name but a few.

Jason also provides advice to employers before disputes arise and assists in dealing with difficult disciplinary and grievance issues, redundancy situations and potential TUPE implications, and other employment law issues with a view to avoiding costly litigation before it begins.

In addition Jason can assist employers with the preparation of employment contracts, staff handbooks and any other documentation required.

Disputes whether in the Employment or other litigious fields can be a minefield but Jason aims to provide clear and practical advice and guidance to his clients.

Jason will be assisted by our former senior partner, Robin Heslop, who continues to work with the Firm on a consultancy basis.

If you require advice or assistance on any Employment Law Issue or other dispute, please contact us on 01543 414100 (quoting ref: JA/001).

Moseleys can assist you with many other legal matters including making a will or a lasting power of attorney; administering the estate of someone who has died; the sale or purchase of property; commercial property matters; divorce, family and/or children issues, and business and commercial transactions.

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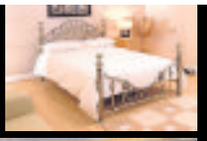

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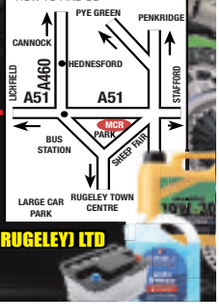

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Academy has cause to celebrate

Mrs Rowena Hillier is proud to be the principal of SUA

Mrs Hillier teaching English to Year 11 students at Staffordshire University Academy

The leadership at the academy is 'Good' – Ofsted 2015

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

STAFFORDSHIRE University Academy is one of the schools that make up the Staffordshire University Academies Trust.

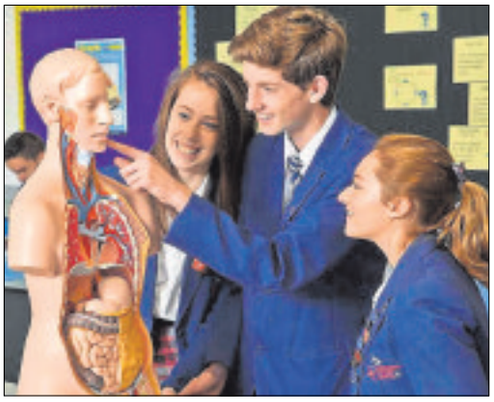
It therefore has strong links with, and support from, Staffordshire University.

This year Staffordshire University Academy has a lot to celebrate! The brand new academy opened its doors just over 18 months ago. The state of the art £10 million building has excellent facilities for the students to enhance their learning experience. As part of the drive to further improve standards Rowena Hillier was appointed as principal in October 2014.

Mrs Hillier said: "I am so proud to be the principal of Staffordshire University Academy. With the support of our students and our committed staff and parents the academy has gone from strength to strength in just under a year. I am thrilled to be fortunate enough to continue leading this exciting journey." Having previously been judged by Ofsted in 2013 as 'Requires Improvement' the new academy leadership team are justifiably proud of the recognition given by Ofsted in the most recent inspection in March 2015. This was acknowledged in a letter received recently from the Chief Inspector of Schools, Sir Michael Wilshaw, who said: "Your ambition and strong leadership will be crucial to Staffordshire University Academy making the necessary journey from requires improvement to good."

SUA's goal is to ensure the very best support for every student, particularly in literacy. As a result of the academy's literacy development, Ofsted invited senior leaders to discuss their success with other schools in October 2014. All students in Years 7, 8 and 9 follow the Accelerated Reading Programme. The academy uses the information gathered from computerised reading quizzes and other reading tests, to support students. An extensive range of clubs, support activities and interventions have been introduced to ensure success for all learners. The academy library is becoming increasingly popular and students are eager to win prizes with their improved reading scores. The academy was extremely successful last year at raising reading ages, with students making an average gain in their reading ages of more than two years in a 12-month period.

As one of Staffordshire's top performing sixth forms, the academy applauded the performance of their young people. Students achieved a collection of impressive results which allowed them to progress to the next phase of their education or to the start of their careers. 2015 sees students of all abilities continue the successes of previous years. The hard work, perseverance and drive of students coupled with the support of their families and the inspiration and commitment of the staff, have produced some excellent performances in the level 3 courses. The 2015 summer examinations led to 61 per cent of A-level students moving on to study at university. Thirty per cent of the Year 13 leavers have successfully secured places at the sponsor Staffordshire University.



Excellent facilities are available in the science department

Staff proud of outstanding exam grades

The academy boasts a superb fitness suite

IN Year 11 this summer the academy was pleased to achieve some outstanding GCSE results by some of the students who have all secured places to continue their education.

The key to improvement at SUA is sustainable success and in this context staff were delighted that more than half of all students in the new Year 11 achieved at least a C grade in their English Literature.

Students took the examination a year early as Year 10 students. Amraj Dulai in Year 11 said: "Before I got my results I was very anxious, as were most students.

"When I saw that I achieved an A in English I felt so happy whilst also so relieved. All the hard work paid off and I hope to attain more great results in the future."

Improving schools are self-critical and honest in their analysis of their own performance. In this context

Mrs Hillier acknowledged that there was disappointment in the overall achievement of the Year 11 leavers partly due to all of the changes that they have been through in their five years at the school.

The recent Ofsted inspection noted that significant work has gone on in the last academic year.

Mrs Hillier said: "The problem was not in the lack of good teachers, we have some really talented teachers at SUA, the problem in the past was in securing the progress of the learners in the younger year groups to sustain long-term success".

Significant

Ofsted recognised this in their report when they stated: "More rapid progress is being made and this will lead to year on year improvement."

Mrs Hillier is keen for parents to know that her team of leaders, at every level, have been 'relentless in eradicating inadequate teaching and establishing their high expectations of both staff and students', as stated in the full report.

SUA is pleased and proud that Ofsted have recognised the significant and sustainable improvements that have continued to be made over the last academic year.

It is proud to be an inclusive community academy making a very positive contribution towards the life chances of young people. The staff at the academy would like to thank the students and parents/carers for their contribution to this achievement; the hard work of the students, teaching staff and the support staff who give such magnificent assistance to the work in all of the classrooms.

This has led to the improvement that is acknowledged by the recent Ofsted judgement that the leadership in the academy is 'Good'.

The academy is very grateful for the tremendous support given to it by the vast majority of its parents, and by the community as a whole, and would like to acknowledge the crucial role played by their parents.

The academy's stakeholders are reassured that SUA is in a very strong position to make the changes necessary to sustain their improvement.

Mrs Hillier is confident that this will be reflected in the academy's results in 2016. These are exciting times at SUA with a massive increase in applications for places and 142 new students joined the academy this September.

This is a 50 per cent increase in the number of applications for two years in a row.

With Open Evening rapidly approaching, Mrs Hillier said: "We want to continue to develop our community links and I am excited about the future.

"I hope as many parents and families as possible come and see what we have to offer at this rapidly improving academy."

The Open Evening at SUA is taking place on Thursday, October 1, 6-8.30pm. The principal will deliver her presentation at 6pm and 7pm.

There are also two Open Mornings where parents can arrive for a tour of the academy – Thursday, October 1 and Monday, October 5 between 9 and 11am – no appointment is necessary.

For more information please visit www.suacademy.co.uk

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

Staffordshire University Academy pupils enjoy working with the local community

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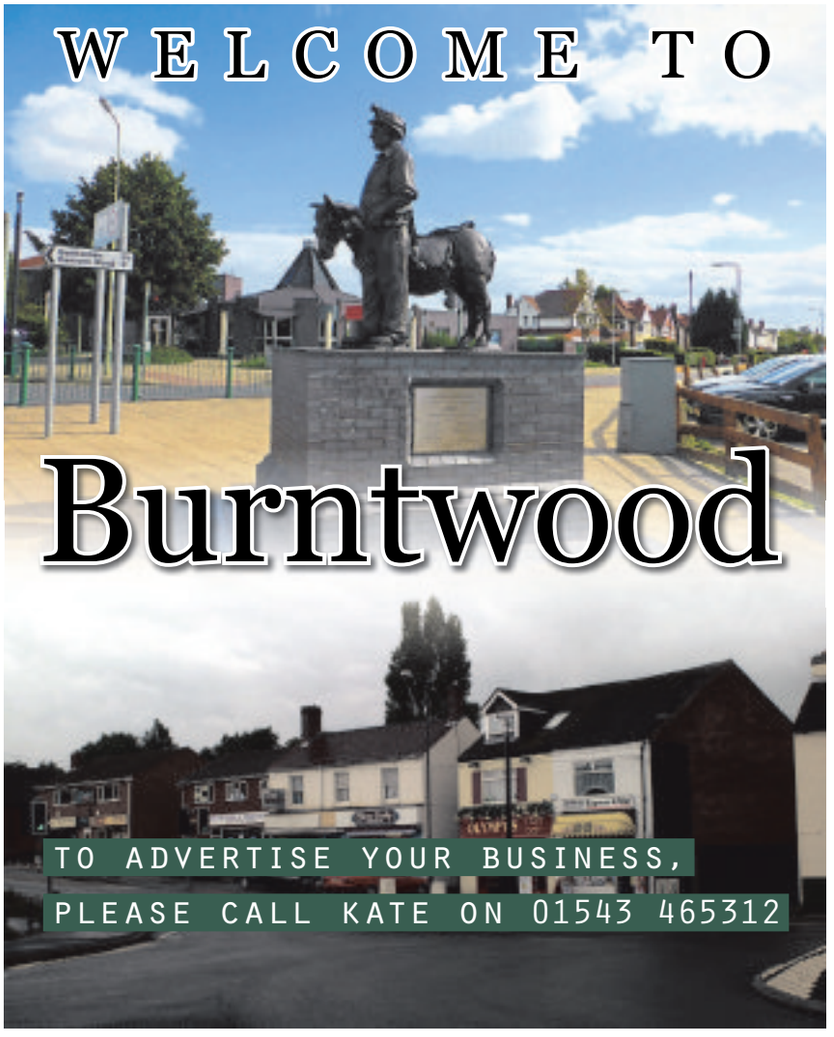
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Station Road, Hednesford 01543 406302

Offers Over £180,000

- Detached Bungalow
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- Kitchen & Lounge/Diner
- Conservatory

Adelaide Drive, Heath Hayes 01543 406302

£270,000 Offers Over

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- En-Suite & Family Bathroom
- Conservatory
- Excellent Condition Throughout
- Double Detached Garage & Driveway
- Front & Rear Gardens

Mere Croft, Norton Canes 01543 406302

£250,000

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Bathroom, WC & En-Suite
- Conservatory
- Garage & Off Road Parking
- Rear Garden
- Viewing Recommended

New Penkridge Road, Cannock 01543 406302

£170,000

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- Sought After Prime Location
- Garage & Resident Parking
- Communal Gardens

Teddesley Way, Huntington 01543 406302

£175,000 **NEW**

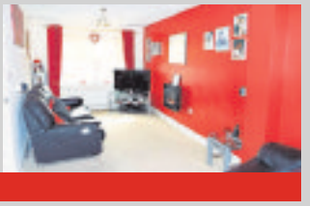
- Detached Property
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Kitchen & Lounge/Diner
- Family Room
- Quiet Cul-de-Sac Location
- Bathroom & Downstairs WC
- Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking

Johnson Road, Cannock 01543 406302

£125,000

- Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge & Kitchen/Diner
- Re-fitted Shower Room

Partridge Close, Heath Hayes 01543 406302



£170,000 Offers Over

- Mid Terraced Townhouse
- Three Storeys
- Four Bedrooms
- Lounge & Kitchen/Diner
- Bathroom & Separate WC
- Three En-Suites
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Garage & Off Road Parking

Cherry Tree Road, Norton Canes 01543 406302

£125,000 **NEW**

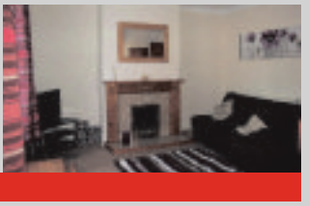
- Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen & Lounge/Diner
- Bathroom & Downstairs WC
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking
- Viewing Recommended
- Call Branch for Details

Rumer Hill Road, Cannock 01543 406302

£80,000

- Two Bedrooms
- Garage & Off Road Parking
- Close to Cannock Railway Station
- No Onward Chain

Pye Green Road, Cannock 01543 406302



£115,000 Offers Over

- End Terraced Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Kitchen & Utility Room
- Wet Room on Ground Floor
- Driveway & Garage
- First Floor Bathroom
- Rear Garden
- Ideal Buy to Let

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Cannock

Downes Way **O/O £185,000**

This property offers the purchaser an impressively extended family home with an office or playroom and a substantial breakfast kitchen. This semi detached requires internal inspection to fully appreciate the modern family living that the downstairs space offers. EPC Rating = D.

Cannock

Newhall Street **£150,000**

Having all the appeal and wow factor of a traditional home this lovely semi detached must be viewed internally to really appreciate all it has to offer. Having both spacious rooms and a Town Centre location, this lovely semi detached property will appeal to many.
Epc Rating = E.

Hednesford

Fisher Street **£180,000**

This lovely family home which offers spacious living accommodation is situated close to the edge of Cannock Chase. The property has a driveway for ample off road parking to the front and a private established rear garden. EPC rating - D

Churchbridge

Forge Close **£170,000**

Available to purchase with no upward chain, this modern, well presented three storey end terraced house also has garage and off road parking. Situated in a pleasant cul-de-sac location with ease of access to M6 toll road, shops and amenities. EPC Grade = B

Hednesford

Priory Road **£160,000**

If you want that WOW!! factor for living accommodation this is this property for you!! Spacious airy lounge, leading to good sized dining kitchen which leads to a lovely conservatory overlooking a landscaped garden with raised decking area. To add to the delights of this lovely family home there is also a detached garage and driveway with parking for several cars. Epc Rating = C.

Cannock

Bradford Street **£140,000**

Available to purchase with no upward chain, this spacious three bedroom semi detached house includes a good sized re-fitted dining kitchen, conservatory to the rear and upstairs a re-fitted shower room. The property includes a driveway leading to detached garage and has a private rear garden. Must be viewed to avoid disappointment.

Cannock

Gratley Croft **O/O £145,000**

Laurence Llewelyn Bowen eat your heart out!!! This beautifully presented three bedroom semi includes a delightful landscaped rear garden a haven for all sun and BBQ lovers! The property also includes a detached garage and is conveniently located for Cannock town centre, good schools and local amenities. An early inspection is essential to avoid disappointment.EPC Grade =D

Hednesford

Moore Street **£150,000**

This spacious three bedroom semi detached house offers many features including ample off road parking to the front, double garage and a good sized well maintained rear garden. Internally the property includes two reception rooms, re-fitted kitchen, guest WC, re-fitted bathroom and three good sized bedrooms.
EPC Grade = D

Huntington

Teddesley way **£130,000**

A delightful first time buy, situated close to Cannock Chase and Shoal Hill Common! A modern three bedroom mid terraced that has been updated by the present owner to include a re-fitted kitchen, a pleasant enclosed rear garden and off road parking to the front. Available to purchase with no upward chain. Epc Rating = D

Norton Canes

Brownhills Road **£125,000**

An ideal first time buy or investment purchase, available to purchase with no upward chain. A low maintenance rear garden, conservatory, lean to and off road parking to the front add to the benefits of this conveniently located property. An early inspection is essential.
EPC Grade =D

Norton Canes

Pennycress Green **£135,000**

Being sold with a sitting tenant, this delightful bungalow offers a great investment opportunity for any purchaser wanting to get on the buy to let market.
EPC Grade = E

Cannock

Foxes Rake **O/O £120,000**

A perfect first time buy! This modern two bedroom semi detached house has a newly fitted kitchen and bathroom and boasts a good sized plot with extra off road parking. Situated on an established residential estate of similar properties in a convenient location EPC Grade = C

Hednesford

Gray Road **O/O £90,000**

Completely renovated to an excellent standard, this one bedroom bungalow is ready for the potential buyer to move straight into!! Re-fitted kitchen and bathroom and situated in a lovely elevated position in a cul-de-sac location of similar properties. Available to purchase with no upward chain.EPC Rating = C

Cannock

Montrose close **£80,000**

A great project for first time buyers and investors alike! In need of cosmetic updating and improvements! Situated in a cul-de-sac location with ease of access to local bus routes, train station and amenities an ideal buy to let purchase. Awaiting EPC

Hednesford

Belt Road **£80,000**

A perfect investment purchase, Two/Three Bedroom Semi in need of cosmetic improvements, has a large rear garden and off road parking. No upward chain, for sale by tender- offers to be received by Friday 16th October 2106 at 12.00pm Awaiting EPC.

Cannock

Central Avenue **O/O £75,000**

If you want something to get your teeth into this home could be ideal! This semi detached property in need of some cosmetic improvements, is a great investment opportunity for future resale or rental.EPC Grade = E

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122 Cannock Road, Blackfords, Cannock	11.30am	11.30am
33 Cannock Road, Blackfords, Cannock	11.50am	11.50am
40 Walhouse Street, Cannock.	12.10pm	12.10pm
14-16 Newhall Street, Cannock	12.30pm	12.30pm
109 Old Penkridge Road, Cannock	1.15pm	1.15pm
Methodist Church, Straight Mile, Calf Heath	2.00pm	2.00pm
122 Streets Lane, Cheslyn Hay	2.45pm	2.45pm
6 Parker Street, Bloxwich	3.30pm	3.30pm
21 Queen Street, Hightown, Cannock	4.15pm	4.15pm
58 Market Street, Hednesford (subject to Lease)	By prior appointment	
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LOT 1

33 CANNOCK ROAD, BLACKFORDS, CANNOCK, WS11 5BU
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
- Semi detached house
- Two bedrooms
- Gas fired central heating
- Fully double glazed
- In need of repair
- EPC rating E (50)

GUIDE PRICE £60,000-£70,000

LOT 2

122 CANNOCK ROAD, CHADSMOOR, CANNOCK, WS11 5BZ
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
- End mews house
- Three bedrooms
- Gas fired central heating (Not tested)
- In need of renovation/ modernisation
- EPC rating F (38)

GUIDE PRICE £60,000-£70,000

LOT 3

11 HEDNESFORD ROAD, BROWNHILLS, WS8 7LS
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
- Semi detached house
- Built C.1901 of brick and tile construction
- Requiring extensive modernisation and refurbishment
- Predominantly double glazed
- Gas fired central heating
- EPC rating F (33)

GUIDE PRICE £70,000

LOT 4

58 MARKET STREET, HEDNESFORD, WS12 1AG
FREEHOLD PART VACANT COMMERCIAL INVESTMENT
- Part vacant commercial investment
- Currently producing £6,000 P.A.X
- Vacant part suitable for conversation/development for 2-3 flats (subject to planning permission)
- EPC rating D (78)

GUIDE PRICE £80,000+

LOT 5

40 WALHOUSE STREET, CANNOCK, WS11 3DY
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
- Semi detached house
- Two bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Double glazed
- In need of modernisation
- EPC rating E (51)

GUIDE PRICE £80,000-£90,000

LOT 6

14-16 NEWHALL STREET, CANNOCK, WS11 1AB
FREEHOLD WITH VAVANT POSSESSION
- Originally constructed as a pair of semi detached houses but converted and combined 30 years ago for the use as doctors surgery and consulting rooms
- Predominantly double glazed ◆ Gas fired central heating ◆ Car parking area to the rear ◆ Ideally suitable for reinstatement as a pair of semi detached house or 4 flats. A planning application has been submitted to Cannock Chase Council
- EPC rating D (112)

GUIDE PRICE £130,000+

LOT 7

109 OLD PENKRIDGE ROAD, CANNOCK, WS11 1HY
LEASEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
- Located in popular residential area
- Semi detached bungalow
- Two bedrooms
- Fully double glazed
- Gas fired central heating
- Detached garage
- EPC rating D (65)

GUIDE PRICE £110,000-£130,000

LOT 8

6 PARKER STREET, BLOXWICH, WALSALL, WS3 2LE
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
- Detached house
- Three bedrooms
- Gas fired central heating
- Fully double glazed
- EPC rating E (41)

GUIDE PRICE £70,000-£80,000

LOT 9

METHODIST CHURCH, STRAIGHT MILE, CALF HEATH, WV10 7DP

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
- Attractive single storey structure of brick, tile and render construction
- Conveniently located for ease of access to surrounding towns of cannock, penkridge, stafford and wolverhampton
- Planning permission for conversion to a two bedroom residence

LOT 10

HIGHFIELD, 122 STREETS LANE, CHESLYN HAY, WS6 7AW

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
- Detached bungalow
- Two bedrooms
- Oil fired central heating
- Predominantly double glazed
- Grounds extending to approximately 0.98 of an acre
- EPC rating F (37)

GUIDE PRICE £325,000-£375,000

LOT 11

3 & 3A CEMETERY ROAD, CHADSMOOR, CANNOCK, WS11 5QH

FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL/ COMMERCIAL INVESTMENT
- Semi detached structure comprising
- Hairdressing salon and self contained flat above
- Currently producing £13,580 P.A.
- EPC rating No 3 - C (62)
- EPC rating No 3a - D (61)

GUIDE PRICE £110,000+

LOT 12

21 QUEEN STREET AND LAND TO REAR, HIGHTOWN, CANNOCK, WS11 5TH
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
- End mews house
- Two bedrooms
- Gas fired central heating
- Off road parking/garage space
- Larger garden area to rear
- In need of improvement
- EPC rating E (50)

GUIDE PRICE £125,000-£135,000

Watson role filled if Hollywood calls

Deputy Labour leader Tom Watson

Shaun of the Dead star Nick Frost

FOR years the European Union was the millstone around the Tories' necks. Last week it turned into Labour's.

Within hours of Jeremy Corbyn becoming the party's leader and by a landslide majority, Wolverhampton North East MP Emma Reynolds joined an exodus of front benchers.

Chief among her concerns was that Mr Corbyn had been highly critical of the EU and might not only fail to campaign to stay in, he might even have wanted to join the side of 'out'.

She was not alone. Former shadow business secretary Chuka Umunna said: "It is my view that we should support the UK remaining a member of the EU, notwithstanding the outcome of any renegotiation by the Prime Minister, and I cannot envisage any circumstances where I would be campaigning alongside those who would argue for us to leave – Jeremy has made it clear to me that he does wholeheartedly share this view."

Five days passed and another Wolverhampton MP, the south east's Pat McFadden, still did not know his future. As shadow Europe minister his role, while not in the shadow cabinet, was surely essential.

But it was Thursday night before he was given the news he wanted to hear – Jeremy Corbyn would campaign to stay in the EU. The crucial reassurance for pro-Europe Mr McFadden was that it was not just a passive promise not to campaign to leave, but an active one to fight to stay in. If Mr Corbyn could give such assurances to Mr McFadden, then why not to Mr Umunna?

He had said on Wednesday night that Labour's policy on Europe was 'developing'. By Thursday it was well and truly formed.

With the party now trying to pull itself back together as the dust settles after a long and drawn out leadership contest, the last thing it wants is its own equivalent of the Maastricht rebellion that split the Tories.

After all, it's not as though the Parliamentary Labour Party are short of things to disagree with Jeremy Corbyn on. Some are less than happy with his own record of supporting Labour. He has rebelled against his own party 533 times in his 32 years.

That means he has voted against Labour more times than David Cameron, who has been in the Commons since 2001. One Labour MP said: "Jeremy Corbyn never paid very much attention to previous leaders' whips so I don't think I'll be too bothered about his." Then the MP saw the positive side and added: "Which means I might get home a bit earlier."

If Hollywood is ever looking to make a movie about the current British Labour party – no, I don't think it's likely either – they will be looking to cast someone as West Bromwich MP and new deputy leader Tom Watson.

They need look no further than Nick Frost, star of films such as Shaun of the Dead. The pair are almost dead ringers for each other, so much so Frost tweeted: "I want to thank everyone who supported me and I'm thrilled at my election."

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New Year in Windsor and London

Pick of the week

Two days departing December 31

PRICE FROM £119

Welcome 2016 with a visit to Windsor plus the chance to see the New Year's Day London Parade – the greatest annual street parade in Europe.

Windsor is famous for its royal connections and is steeped in the pageantry and history of the Royal Family. The castle, built by William the Conqueror almost 1,000 years ago, is the top attraction being the oldest and largest occupied castle in the world and official residence of Her Majesty the Queen.

Step inside (entrance payable locally) to see the magnificent State Apartments adorned with treasures from the Royal Collection, and the beautiful building of St George's Chapel. Other famous buildings in Windsor include Frogmore House and Eton College. The town centre also has a great variety of shops including high street names and department stores alongside specialist and souvenir shops. Later in the day see in the New Year back at the hotel with a New Year's Eve party.

On New Year's day head into central London to see the Lord Mayor's Parade. 10,000 people representing over 30 nations and all the boroughs of London take to the streets of the West End in a massive celebration of the city. A New Year's Day tradition which begun in 1987, it's an incredible sight, and a wonderful experience to be part of the crowd watching the floats, bands and people pass by to celebrate the beginning of 2016.

INFO

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- New Year's Eve party
- Visit to Windsor
- Free time in London for the Lord Mayor's New Year's Day Parade
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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Liverpool and Manchester Shopper

Two days departing November 28

PRICE FROM £99.95

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Free time in Liverpool
- Visit to Manchester Christmas markets
- Services of a coach driver/tour representative
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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Christmas in Weston-Super-Mare

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- Steam train journey on the West Somerset Railway
- Single rooms subject to availability – supplement applies

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Winchester and Salisbury Christmas Markets

Two days departing December 12

PRICE FROM £95

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Visits to Salisbury and Winchester Christmas markets
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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Costumes of the Stars in London Dressed by Angels

Two days departing November 21

PRICE FROM £119

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Entrance to the Dressed by Angels exhibition
- Visit to Covent Garden
- Free time to visit Brick Lane Market and Spitalfields market
- Single rooms subject to availability – supplement applies

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The Nutcracker on Ice at the Royal Albert Hall

Two days departing December 28

PRICE FROM £119

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- Visit to Hyde Park Winter Wonderland
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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Hyde Park Winter Wonderland

Two days departing November 28

PRICE FROM £89

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Visit to Hyde Park Winter Wonderland
- Free time in London
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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Christmas at Chatsworth

Two days departing November 14

PRICE FROM £119

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- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Entrance to Chatsworth house and gardens
- Visit to Meadowhall Shopping Centre
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Three days departing December 30

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Academic excellence at the core

Students are focused on academic excellence

Sixth formers celebrate excellent A Level results

Each Lichfield Cathedral School student is gloriously different

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

LICHFIELD Cathedral School students celebrated another year of outstanding academic results this summer.

Some 94 per cent gained at least 5 A*-C grades at GCSE, while at A Level 54 of all grades were A*-B.

"At the core of what we do is, and will always remain, academic excellence," said headteacher Susan Hannam. "Fostering intellectual curiosity and a love of learning are fundamental to this achievement, and to success in higher education and beyond into employment."

Sixth Form students have gone on to study subjects mathematics, ancient history, economics, psychology, English, geography, international business, law, finance and philosophy at universities in Birmingham, Sheffield, Exeter, Lancaster, York, Brighton, Nottingham and Lincoln.

Many students also choose to complete the EPQ – the Extended Project Qualification – a self-directed research project on a subject of their choice, helping them to refine their investigation, analysis, presentation and written skills.

Beth Goodwin, last year's Head Girl, described the EPQ as "perfect preparation for university", stating that she had "learned a lot about how I work best, which has given me the confidence to know I'll make the most out of my degree course."

Wonderful

Susan Hannam added: "Our Sixth Form opened in 2010 and this year saw our first cohort graduate from university. Of the seven students we've heard from so far, three gained first class degrees and the other four gained 2:1s. It is particularly wonderful that so many have visited us to say thank you for helping them to achieve such outstanding results."

In an age of league tables and statistics, it should be remembered that much of what brings life and energy to a school is not that easy to measure. A rich and challenging curriculum enhanced with stimulating visits to theatres, museums, art galleries, farms, laboratories and even a super collider, expand students' education beyond the classroom. Music, drama, art, languages, sport and Forest School are built into the curriculum, with plenty of performance opportunities open to all students.

Cathedral School students also take part in an extensive programme of extra-curricular activities embracing sport, martial arts, public speaking and debate, art, exploration, craft and science. The school's Ethical Leadership Programme encompasses children aged four-to-18, enabling them to take on responsibility and develop the communication, team-building, negotiation, mentoring and motivational skills so prized by higher education and employers.

The head concluded: "These children come this way but once, and they are entitled to the best chance in life that we can give them.

"I treat it as a badge of honour that the Lichfield Cathedral School pupil is not a homogenised product – each student is gloriously different and we celebrate that."

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Alzheimer's Society

Leading the fight against dementia

What is dementia?

The word dementia describes a set of symptoms that may include memory loss and difficulties with thinking, problem-solving or language. These changes are often small to start with, but for someone with dementia they have become severe enough to affect daily life. A person with dementia may also experience changes in their mood or behaviour.

Dementia is caused when the brain is damaged by diseases, such as Alzheimer's disease or a series of strokes. Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia but not all dementia is due to Alzheimer's. The specific symptoms that someone with dementia experiences will depend on the parts of the brain that are damaged and the disease that is causing the dementia.

Can dementia be prevented?

It is not usually possible to say for sure why a particular person has developed dementia. It is known that high blood pressure, lack of exercise and smoking - all of which lead to narrowing of the arteries - increase the risk of developing Alzheimer's disease and vascular dementia. There is evidence that a healthy lifestyle, especially in mid-life, can help reduce the risk of dementia. Regular exercise (e.g. cycling, brisk walking), maintaining a healthy weight, not smoking, and drinking only in moderation are all linked to a reduced risk of dementia.

What does Alzheimer's Society do?

Alzheimer's Society is here for anyone worried about or affected by dementia. We provide information and support, fund innovative medical and social research, and campaign for better quality of life for people with dementia and greater understanding of the condition.

Everything we do is guided by the things people affected by dementia have said they want to see in their lives.

Living well with dementia

Living with dementia is challenging and people with dementia may feel angry or frustrated about what's happening to them. Plans for the future might have to change, but dementia doesn't change who the person with dementia is. And a diagnosis of dementia doesn't mean that that person with dementia has to stop doing the things that they enjoy; but they might have to do them in a different way.

There are some practical things that a person with dementia can do to help them live as well as possible. Focus on the things they can and want to do, and try not to become isolated.

Keeping as active as possible – physically, mentally and socially – will bring great benefits. It can help someone with dementia meet people, retain skills and memory, boost self-esteem, improve sleep and avoid depression. Some creative activities can be helpful too, such as painting, writing a diary, listening to music or audiobooks, or doing a word or number puzzle.

Alzheimer's Society services in the Wolverhampton area

These include regular Dementia Cafés where people living with dementia, and their carers, can meet others in similar circumstances in a relaxed and informal setting to chat with staff and volunteers from Alzheimer's Society on hand to offer information, help and support.

How can I find out more information?

Visit our website at **www.alzheimers.org.uk/localinfo** or contact Alzheimer's Society National Dementia Helpline on **0300 222 1122.**

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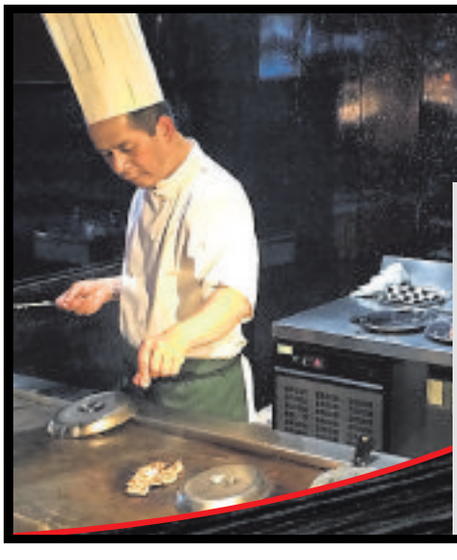

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POP & ROCK

Queen Tribute
Fri at 7.30pm, £22.40
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

Madness
Fri at 6pm, £35
Wolverhampton Racecourse, WV6 0PE. Call 01902 390000

Guns Vs Roses: Guns N Roses Tribute
Sat at 12am, £5 - £7
The RoadHouse Birmingham, Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.
Call 0121 246 2273

Joe McElderry – The Evolution Tour 2015
Thu at 7.30pm, £20.50
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

The Manfreds
Wed at 7.30pm,
£19.50 - £20.50
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Reef
Sat at 8pm, £20
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Spunge
Sun at 5.30pm - 10.30pm, £10
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

Joe Longthorne
Thu at 7.30pm, £22.50
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE.
Call 01543 578762

Big Country – Best Of Tour
Fri at 7.30pm, £20 - £22.50
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

The Lemonheads
Thu at 7pm, £17
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

Wille And The Bandits
Thu at 7.30pm - 11pm, £10
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

The Killerz: The Killers Tribute
Fri at 7.30pm, £8
The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN. Call 01384 397177

The Wombats
Fri at 7pm - 11pm, £17
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

Dave Bainbridge
Wed at 7.30pm, £12 - £14
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

The Christians & Roachford
Sat at 7pm, £30.25
Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

Cliff Richard's 75th Birthday Tour
Tue at 7.45pm, £65 - £75
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Bravado: Rush Tribute
Sun at 7.30pm, £10 - £12
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Annihilator
Wed at 7pm - 11pm, £16
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Ben Khan
Mon at 7pm, £8
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

The Picturebooks
Thu at 7pm, £7
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

Sleaford Mods
Tue at 7pm, £15
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

The Mods
Sat at 7.30pm, £12 - £14
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Gun
Tue at 7pm, £14
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

Hunter Hayes
Sun at 7pm, £16.50
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

Simply Dylan
Fri at 6pm, £19.50
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

The Bluetones
Sat at 7pm, £21
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

A Solitary Man – The Songs Of Neil Diamond
Fri at 7.30pm, £14
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Luke Pickett
Sun at 7.30pm - 10pm, £6
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Enslaved & Grand Magus
Fri at 7pm, £16
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

JAZZ & BLUES

Chantel McGregor
Thu at 7pm - 11pm, £13
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

The Big Chris Barber Band
Fri at 7.30pm - 10pm, £21
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

Jo Harman And Company
Thu at 7.30pm,
£12.50 - £14.50
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Albert Lee
Mon at 7.30pm, £25
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

SOUL

Martha Reeves & The Vandellas
Sun at 7pm, £20 - £22.50
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

The Soul Survivors
Sat at 7.30pm, £10
The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN. Call 01384 397177

FOLK & ACOUSTIC

The Lindisfarne Story
Wed at 7.30pm,
£18.50 - £19.50
Lichfield Garrick, Lichfield, WS13 6HR. 01543 412121

Diana Krall
Mon at 7.30pm, £40 - £60
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

The Rua Macmillan Trio
Wed at 7.30pm - 10.30pm, £10
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Irish Music Session
Wed at 8pm,
Katie Fitzgerald's, Wollaston, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB.
Call 01384 374410

CLASSICAL & OTHER MUSIC

Nicola Benedetti: Italy and The Four Seasons
Sat at 7.30pm - 10pm,
£20 - £32.50
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

Beats & Pieces
Thu at 8.30pm, £10
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

CBSO - Sibelius Fifth
Wed at 2.15pm, Thu at 7.30pm,
£12.50 - £43
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

Pei-Chun Liao
Tue at 1.05pm, £3.50 - £6.50
Birmingham Conservatoire, Birmingham City University, B3 3HG.
Call 0121 331 5901

Gareth Lockrane's Grooveyard
Fri at 5pm, Free
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

Sain Zahoor
Wed at 8.30pm, £15 - £20
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

THEATRE

Maudits Sonnants
Fri, Sat at 8.30pm - 10pm, Free
Centenary Square, Birmingham.

The 39 Steps
Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 7.45pm, £9 - £10
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

I Loved You And I Loved You (Over 12s)
Sat at 8pm, £8 - £10
mac, Cannon Hill Road, Birmingham, B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

Rat Pack: Vegas Spectacular
Fri at 7.30pm, £20 - £21
Palace Theatre, Alcester Street, Redditch, B98 8AE.
Call 01527 65203

Birmingham Weekender: Berending Kumpo
Sat at 12pm, Sun at 12pm, Free
Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, B1 2HS. Call 0121 248 0708

Mad About The Musicals
Thu at 8pm, £23 - £24
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

Vincent And Flavia
Fri at 7.30pm - 10pm, Sat at 2.30pm - 5.30pm, 7.30pm - 10pm, £18.50 - £45
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

Corey Baker Dance: Haka Day Out
Fri at 8pm, £13
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Dead Dog In A Suitcase (And Other Love Songs)
Tue at 7pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 2pm, 7.30pm, £13.50 - £35
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

An Evening Of Burlesque
Sat at 8pm, £27.40 - £29.40
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

The Masters Of The House Sing The Musicals
Sat at 7.30pm, £23.50
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 573320

Sunshine On Leith
Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm, £15 - £17
The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham, B16 8AE.
Call 0121 643 5858

Sancho: An Act Of Remembrance
Fri at 7.30pm, £20
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP.
Call 0121 236 4455

Worcester On Stage: HMS Pinafore
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm,
The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham, B16 8AE.
Call 0121 643 5858

Ace Dance & Music: Mana: The Power Within
Thu at 8pm, £8 - £12
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB.
Call 0844 338 5000

Shrek The Musical
Wed at 7.15pm, Thu at 2pm, 7.15pm,
£16.50 - £44.50
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 573320

The Shawshank Redemption
Mon at 7.30pm, Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm, £12.90 - £37.90
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

Birmingham Royal Ballet: Swan Lake
Mon at 7.30pm, Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm, £19 - £56
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB.
Call 0844 338 5000

COMEDY

Michael McIntyre: Happy & Glorious
Fri at 8pm, Sat at 8pm, £35 - £50
Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham, B1 2AA.
Call 0121 780 4141

Alan Carr: Yap, Yap, Yap!
Sat at 8pm, Sun at 8pm, £30
Wolverhampton Civic Hall, WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star

Shrek is taking ogre at the Grand

Go green at the Grand — Bronté Barbé as Princess Fiona, Idriss Kargbo as Donkey and Dean Chisnall as Shrek

BE a believer in fairy tales when monster hit Shrek The Musical arrives at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre for 16 performances from Wednesday, September 30.

Starring Dean Chisnall, who also played the green ogre in the West End, the cast also includes Over The Rainbow finalist Bronté Barbé as Princess Fiona, Idris Kargbo as Shrek's wisecracking sidekick Donkey and Gerard Carey as pint-sized villain Lord Farquaad.

Based on the hugely popular animated movie, Shrek The Musical was seen live on stage in London by nearly a million people and helped Neil Diamond's 1960s hit for The Monkees, I'm A Believer, become popular all over again.

Also featuring a love-sick dragon, a biscuit with attitude and a host of fairy tale favourites, the UK tour of Shrek The Musical is directed by Nigel Harman, who played Lord Farquaad at the Theatre Royal Drury Lane.

The show runs at the Grand until October 11, including matinee performances, and tickets range from £16.50 to £44.50.

See www.grandtheatre.co.uk or call the box office on 01902 429 212.

From tears to cheers

WORLD-FAMOUS violin virtuoso Nicola Benedetti sobbed her way through her first violin lesson, aged four. But the 28-year-old from Ayrshire, who was born to a Scottish mother and Italian father, went on to become one of the most popular classical violinists of her generation.

"I cried through my first violin lesson," remembered Nicola. "I was quite shy and am also left-handed, so I continually picked the instrument up the wrong way. My teacher probably got frustrated and I was just so nervous.

"But from the second lesson on I got the hang of it and really progressed quite quickly. Actually, it was the music moving me to tears that hooked me to the violin."

At the age of eight she became leader of the National Children's Orchestra of Great Britain and by nine had already passed the eight grades of music exams. At 16 she won the BBC Young Musician of the Year competition and had signed a £1 million six album deal. Since then she was won two Classical BRIT Awards for Best Female Artist and was awarded an MBE for services to classical music. One of her biggest motivations is encouraging children to take up music.

Last year's Homecoming album, inspired by Scottish music, entered the top 20 pop chart.

She returns to the Symphony Hall, Birmingham, on Saturday with a dynamic programme inspired by her father's homeland. It will include Vivaldi's Four Seasons and Tchaikovsky's Souvenir de Florence. Tickets start at £20 for Saturday's concert, see www.thsh.co.uk or call 0121 345 0600.

Nostalgic string of rock and pop gigs

THERE'S a strong hint of nostalgia on the gig scene.

Scottish rockers Big Country, with Simon Hough taking over from the late Stuart Adamson on vocals, are at Bilston's Robin 2 tomorrow (Fri) and Liverpool's The Christians team up with Cuddly Toy rocker Andrew Roachford at the Wulfrun Hall on Saturday. That's the same night The Bluetones play the O2 Academy in Birmingham.

Jazz singer Diana Krall is at the Symphony Hall on Monday, the same night guitar great Albert Lee and Ralph McTell play Birmingham Town Hall. Cliff Richard has sold out his Symphony Hall concert on Tuesday celebrating his 75th birthday.

Ex-Casualty stars in Shawshank play

POPULAR TV actor Ian Kelsey returns to the stage in a play based on a novella by US master of macabre Stephen King.

The former Casualty and Blue Murder star joins fellow former Casualty actor Patrick Robinson in The Shawshank Redemption, a story about friendship and hope in a prison. It was also made into a movie.

It is staged at Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre from Monday to Saturday. Kelsey plays lifer Andy Dufresne and Strictly Come Dancing finalist Robinson plays prison fixer Ellis 'Red' Redding. See www.atqtickets.com/Birmingham or call 0844 871 3011.

Swan Lake marks silver anniversary

BIRMINGHAM Royal Ballet begins its 25th anniversary season at Birmingham Hippodrome by performing the most popular of all ballets, Swan Lake.

The company, which made its move from London to Birmingham in 1990, will feature an ensemble of 50 dancers, a sinfonia of 60 musicians performing Tchaikovsky's score, plus Gothic sets and opulent costumes for this romantic blockbuster. It will be staged from Monday, September 28, to Tuesday, October 6.

The city's premiere of First Steps: A Child's Swan Lake, created for families and young children, is on October 2 at 1pm.

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TICKETS £14
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Something on the side – a fresh salad

Akbar's, at the site of the former Liberty's nightclub

Chicken makhani, chicken dhansak and rice

Still a nightclub feel, but the interior dazzles

The spice is right at restaurant housed in former city nightclub

IT'S no secret that Birmingham has more than its fair share of Indian restaurants.

So to stand the test of time, you've really got to offer something different – as well as pull the diners in.

I consider myself a massive fan of Indian food, but I always go to the same place and choose my favourite dish each time.

I'm almost nervous to try something.And I'm not a fan of 'fancy' curry houses. I love old, traditional, basic food, that comes in a balti dish and costs less than a tenner for a full meal. And where I can take my own wine.

Every now and then, though, it's nice to get dressed up and splash out a bit, so with that in mind I headed to Akbar's on Hagley Road. I first visited when it opened back in 2009 and judging by how my recent visit, it is as popular as ever.

By Lisa Wright

Those old enough to remember will know it as the former Liberty's nightclub. Younger readers will know it as the big white building next door to TGI Friday's.

The venue underwent a massive transformation when it opened, and it appeared to have lost none of its sparkle on my recent visit.

We ordered a bottle of Malbec and made ourselves comfy while we waited for our table which we were told could be up to 45 minutes. But much to our delight, our table was ready in 15 minutes.

There was almost a party atmosphere inside, with a real feeling of celebration being enjoyed by the other diners, so with it being so busy, I was worried that service would suffer. However, we were really well looked after. The starter menu has all the usual favourites,but there were also plenty of what I'd describe as more unusual dishes. Take for example the liver tikka and the rabbit tikka which comes served with a strawberry chutney.

Tempting options included the chicken wings, seasoned with spices in a yogurt marinade and cooked over charcoal. The keema and cheese samosas – minced lamb with onions and sweetcorn in pastry – also sounded right up my street.But in the end, we played it safe and went for poppadoms and the onion bhaji.

The poppadoms were crunchy and crisp, exactly what you want, while the bhaji, made with onion and potato, was again very tasty. It came in a light batter that wasn't too heavy, while the raita was creamy and cool, the perfect accompaniment.

We also chose our favourites for main courses – chicken dhansak and chicken tikka makhani. I'd hoped for a sweet and sour flavour sauce with my dhansak, with huge chunks of chicken and pineapple, but in all honesty it fell a bit flat. Rather than lots of meat, I felt the dish was loaded down with lentils and sweetcorn. The flavour was good, and I mopped up the sauce with a naan bread, but if I was to order it again, I definitely wouldn't expect to see so much sweetcorn.

There was better luck for my friend whose chicken tikka makhani was thoroughly enjoyed. The sauce was mild and creamy and given a massive thumbs-up. The accompanying pilau rice was spot on, with the grains all delightfully fluffy and separated.

I enjoyed the experience at Akbar's. I'd probably go for a different main course next time, but my choice wouldn't stop me from going back.

CHOICE

Tess Daly

Strictly Come Dancing (BBC1, 6.15pm)

Following last night's first live edition, in which the first six celebrity hoofers made their dance-floor debuts – not counting the group number they all exuberantly threw themselves into in the launch show earlier this month - Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman introduce the nine celebrities who have been patiently waiting in the wings, ready to show off what they've learned in the rehearsal room – or not, in the case of any potential John Sergeants and Ann Widdecombes. With no public vote or elimination this weekend, the scores given by judges Len Goodman, Bruno Tonioli, Craig Revel Horwood and Darcey Bussell are carried over to next week, when the first couple will leave the competition.

BBC1

6.00 Live Formula 1: Japanese Grand Prix – Qualifying. **8.30** Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **12.00** BBC News; Weather. **12.10** Football Focus. **12.50** Saturday Sportsday. **1.00** Formula 1: Japanese Grand Prix – Qualifying Replay. **2.30** Bargain Hunt. (R) **3.15** Money for Nothing. **4.00** Final Score. **5.10** BBC News. **5.20** Regional Programme. **5.30** Pointless Celebrities.

6.15 Strictly Come Dancing. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman host the second of this weekend's live shows, in which the remainder of the couples take to the floor.

7.45 Doctor Who. It's only the second episode of the new series, and already the chief writer Steven Moffat has put the Time Lord in mortal peril, making him a prisoner of the creatures that hate him most in the universe. Finding himself alone on the terrifying Dalek planet Skaro – with no sonic screwdriver, no Tardis and no one to help – the Doctor only has his wits to keep him alive. Now he faces his greatest temptation – can he resist? And will there be any mercy? Peter Capaldi stars as the time-hopping adventurer.

8.35 The National Lottery: In It to Win It. Dale Winton presents the quiz show in which five contestants answer questions to scoop a big cash prize. Only those in the winners' row will have a chance of taking home the loot, so they will need to get all the answers right – as well as a little bit of luck on their side. Gaby Roslin hosts the National Lottery draws, and there is a performance by Simply Red.

9.25 Casualty. Terror comes to Holby. Starring Amanda Mealing.

10.15 BBC News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker introduces highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Tottenham Hotspur v Manchester City at White Hart Lane and Leicester City v Arsenal at the King Power Stadium. Spurs have endured a difficult start to the season, and their fixture against the title favourites was likely to provide an indication as to whether they can challenge for a place in the top four this term.

12.05 Film: Mystery Road. (2013) **2.00** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.05** BBC News. **5.00** Live Formula 1: Japanese Grand Prix.

BBC2

6.10 Film: Journey into Fear. (1943) **7.20 Film:** Apache Territory. (1958) **8.30** F1 Rewind: Rivalries. **9.30** Racing Legends: Stirling Moss. (R) **10.30** Animal Park. (R) **11.00** More Creatures Great and Small. (R) **11.30** More Creatures Great and Small. (R) **12.00** Great British Menu. (R) **12.30** Great British Menu. (R) **1.00** Terry and Mason's Great Food Trip. (R) **1.30** Two Greedy Italians: Still Hungry. (R) **2.30** Coast. (R) **3.15** World's Busiest Railway 2015. (R) **4.15** Flog It! (R) **5.15** The Hairy Bikers' Northern Exposure. (R)

6.15 Gardeners' World. Joe Swift visits a "drinkable" allotment in London, where much of the produce is grown to make beer, wine and cider. Plus, the first of a five-part feature about botany. (R)

6.45 Africa's Fishing Leopards: Natural World. David Attenborough narrates a documentary following a leopard and its cubs in Botswana, with the cats having to learn how to fish to have any chance of survival. (R)

7.45 Dad's Army. Mainwaring and his platoon are put in charge of manning an observation post on a derelict pier, but they are marooned when their boat drifts away. (R)

8.15 Film: Midnight's Children. (2012) Premiere. Two babies are born at midnight on the day India becomes independent of British rule in 1947, but are switched at birth. As the two children grow to adulthood, one in wealth the other in poverty, they find their lives are constantly intertwined while the nation around them experiences sweeping social change. Drama based on Salman Rushdie's novel, starring Satya Bhabha.

10.30 Cradle to Grave. The thought of paying for daughter Sharon's dream wedding is giving Fred sleepless nights, while Danny takes up photography – inspired by the tutoring of his sexy French teacher. (R)

11.00 Boy Meets Girl. With Tony and Pam away, Leo and Judy plan to spend their first night together, but he loses his nerve and romance soon drops off the agenda. (R)

11.30 Film: A Walk to Remember. (2002) Romantic drama, starring Mandy Moore and Shane West.

1.05 Film: Strawberry Fields. (2012) **2.30** This Is BBC Two. **5.45** Countryfile. (R)

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.20** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Fish Hooks. **7.20** Horrid Henry. **7.35** Adventure Time. **8.00** Marvel Avengers Assemble. **8.30** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **9.00** Jessie. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** The Unforgettable Benny Hill. (R) **10.15** The X Factor. (R) **12.15** ITV News; Weather. **12.25** Downton Abbey. (R) **2.00** Rugby World Cup. Italy v Canada (Kick-off 2.30pm). **4.30** Rugby World Cup. South Africa v Samoa (Kick-off 4.45pm).

6.55 Regional Programme; Weather.

7.00 ITV News; Weather.

7.15 Rugby World Cup. England v Wales (Kick-off 8.00pm). Coverage of the Pool A encounter at Twickenham, where the old rivals meet in arguably the most eagerly awaited fixture of the pool stage. Since the draw was made, this pool has been regarded as by far the toughest, with Australia also involved, due to the Welsh being seeded ninth at the time and therefore regarded as one of the third tier of nations. However, their recent record against England shows there is little to call between the nations, and Stuart Lancaster's men will be delighted to have the benefit of home advantage, with Wales playing here in both of their key fixtures in the pool. There is little love lost between the two, and England will be looking for a third successive victory over Warren Gatland's side, having beaten their opponents in the Six Nations in Cardiff in February in their last encounter. While qualifying for the quarter-finals is the initial aim, there is also an incentive to finish top of the pool and secure a potential route to the final that is expected to avoid defending champions and favourites New Zealand.

10.20 Through the Keyhole. Keith Lemon hosts a revival of the classic game show in which panellists Antony Cotton, Sara Cox and Jimmy Carr are challenged to identify the homes of the rich and famous.

11.20 ITV News; Weather.

11.35 Rugby World Cup Highlights.

12.35 Jackpot247. **3.00** Show Me the Telly. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.05 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.30** Challenge Weymouth. **7.30** FIM Superbike World Championship. **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Frasier. (R) **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.55** Come Dine with Me. (R) **11.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **11.55** Come Dine with Me. (R) **12.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **12.55** Come Dine with Me. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage of races at Newmarket and Market Rasen. **4.10** Channel 4 News. **4.30** Couples Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.15** Couples Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.00 Location, Location, Location. Kirstie Allsopp is in the countryside surrounding Edinburgh helping Ian find a new home – but it soon becomes clear that he is more interested in finding the right shed for his collection of cars and tools than somewhere to lay his head. Phil Spencer is with Rogan and Jane, who suffer from chronic indecision when it comes to house hunting – and that's the least thing they need as they have to find a home fast before their first baby arrives in three months' time. (R)

7.00 Celebrity Benchmark. New series. Paddy McGuinness hosts a celebrity version of the game show in which contestants Jimmy Carr and Joey Essex must decide how 10 members of the great British public answered a series of tricky numerical questions – then simply decide whether the correct answer is higher of lower.

8.00 Film: Snow White & the Huntsman. (2012) An evil queen learns that her reign will last for ever if she kills a princess, so sends a renowned warrior to find and murder her. However, he comes to realise his mistress's evil ways, and instead trains his intended victim to fight so they can bring the tyrant's rule to an end. Fantasy adventure, with Kristen Stewart, Chris Hemsworth and Charlize Theron.

10.30 Film: Van Helsing. (2004) A vampire slayer sets out to help a gypsy princess vanquish Count Dracula and his three brides once and for all. Action adventure, starring Hugh Jackman.

1.05 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. (R) **2.00** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.05** Kirstie's Vintage Gems. (R) **4.25** Deal or No Deal: Double Trouble – Grandparents. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** SpongeBob SquarePants. **10.35** Cowboy Builders. (R) **11.30** Cowboy Builders. (R) **12.30** Cowboy Builders & Bodge Jobs. (R) **1.20 Film:** Columbo Cries Wolf. (1990) Detective drama, starring Peter Falk. **3.20 Film:** Columbo: Death Hits the Jackpot. (1991) **5.15** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R)

6.10 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Paul and Steve call for urgent police back-up after opening a locked wooden case they find while carrying out an eviction notice at a flat in London's Docklands. (R)

7.10 Fail Army. New series. A collection of viral videos that have already found billions of fans on the internet, including painful pratfalls and hilarious animal antics.

7.35 Fail Army. This week's collection of viral videos focuses on the fearless and recklessly ambitious, including a gymnast who kicks the girl he is trying to impress in the ribs.

8.00 Now That's Funny! New series. A collection of internet-sourced videos with a family friendly hook, featuring laugh-out-loud unexpected personal moments now being shared with the world.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's top matches, including the west London derby between Fulham and Queens Park Rangers in the Championship. Friday's game was the first time the sides had met in this division since the 2000/01 season, when the Cottagers did the double over Rangers on their way to the title and promotion to the Premier League. QPR were relegated to the third tier at the end of that season, where they would stay until gaining promotion in 2004. Plus, action from the other Championship games, as well as all the goals from League One and League Two.

10.30 Stevie Wonder: An All-Star Grammy Salute. An all-star line-up including Beyonce, Lady Gaga and Ed Sheeran salute Stevie Wonder with songs from his stellar songbook, before the man himself takes the stage. (R)

12.15 The Gadget Show. (R) **1.05** SuperCasino. **3.10** Spike Fight Night: BAMMA. **4.50** Make It Big. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Top Gear: The Best of Series 22 **8.00** Don't Tell the Bride **9.00** Russell Howard's Good News **10.00 Film:** The 51st State (2001) **11.25** Family Guy **1.40** Russell Howard's Good News **2.10** Orphan Black **3.35** People Time **4.00** Close

BBC Four

7.00 Operation Jericho **8.00** The Engine That Powers the World: Timeshift **9.00** Beck: The Family **10.30** A Very British Murder with Lucy Worsley **11.30** Hot Chocolate at the BBC **12.30** Boogie Fever: A TOTP2 Disco Special **2.00** Nile Rodgers: The Hitmaker **3.00** The Joy of Disco **4.00** Close

ITV2

12.05 You've Been Framed! **1.05** The X Factor **3.10** The Xtra Factor **4.15** Catchphrase **4.55 Film:** Nim's Island (2008) **6.50 Film:** Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous (2005) **9.00 Film:** The Back-up Plan (2010) **11.15** Celebrity Juice: Ultimate £ThrowBackThursday Special **12.00** Safeword **1.25** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **1.50** Crazy Beaches **2.15** Animal Practice **2.40** Teleshopping **5.40** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

12.40 Foyle's War **6.55** Doc Martin **8.00** Lewis **10.00** A Touch of Frost **12.15** Wire in the Blood **1.35** Murder, She Wrote **2.25** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4

11.40 The Professionals **12.45** Pawn Stars **2.05** British Superbike Championship Highlights **3.10 Film:** Rio Bravo (1959) **6.00** Storage Wars: New York **7.00** Storage Wars **7.30 Film:** Cannonball Run II (1984) **9.45 Film:** National Lampoon's Loaded Weapon 1 (1993) **11.30 Film:** First Blood (1982) **1.20** Minder **2.20** Hogan's Heroes **2.45** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

11.00 The Goldbergs **12.00 Film:** Hop (2011) **2.00** The Big Bang Theory **6.00 Film:** Maid in Manhattan (2002) **8.00** The Big Bang Theory: Top 5 Penny **10.30** Gogglebox **12.35** Bad Robots **1.10** Rude(ish) Tube **1.40** How I Met Your Mother **2.35** The Inbetweeners **3.25** 2 Broke Girls **3.50** How I Met Your Mother **4.10** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **4.35** Revenge

Film4

11.00 Guadalcanal Diary (1943) **1.00** Dear John (2010) **3.20** The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (2010) **5.45** Avatar (2009) **9.00** Black Hawk Down (2001) **12.00** Piranha 3DD (2012) **1.40** Clerks (1994) **3.35** Close

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SUNDAY'S TV SEPTEMBER 27

CHOICE

Thomas Turgoose

This Is England '90 (Channel 4, 9pm)

Life begins to take a darker turn as autumn draws in and honesty, loyalty and forgiveness are tested to the limit among the group of young friends in the penultimate episode of Shane Meadows' 1990-set drama. Lol finds herself confronted with a seemingly impossible task and is forced to face up to some uncomfortable truths. Kelly continues on her downward spiral, while Shaun escapes the troubles of the present with a trip down memory lane. Starring Vicky McClure, Thomas Turgoose, Chanel Cresswell, Andrew Ellis, Andrew Shim, Billy Braithwaite, Danielle Watson and Helen Behan.

BBC1

9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Sunday Politics. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Formula 1: Japanese Grand Prix Replay. **3.15** Eat Well for Less? (R) **4.15** The Great British Bake Off. (R) **5.15** Points of View. **5.30** Songs of Praise.

6.05 BBC News.

6.20 Regional Programme.

6.30 Countryfile. Matt Baker and Ellie Harrison present this year's One Man and His Dog competition, from Chirk Castle, North Wales, and discover the conservation work being carried out in the area. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

7.30 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce presents the show from Broughton Castle, near Banbury, Oxfordshire, where finds include a book of police mug shots, a Victorian baby bouncer and a musical penknife.

8.30 Cider with Rosie. Anyone who studied English Literature in the 1980s will know this story immediately as Cider with Rosie was the set text for a generation of school pupils. Now BBC One presents it as the latest in their season of classic 20th-century literature adaptations. Laurie Lee's autobiographical memoir is an evocative coming-of-age story set in an idyllic Cotswold village during and after the First World War. It follows Young Loll as he experiences first love, loss and family upheaval while growing to manhood in an environment seemingly untouched by the trappings of the modern world. Samantha Morton, Jessica Hynes, Ruby Ashbourne Serkis and June Whitfield star.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action, featuring Watford v Crystal Palace at Vicarage Road, and all the goals from Saturday's fixtures.

11.20 The Women's Football Show. A look at the biggest issues in the women's game, focusing on matters at both club and international level.

11.50 Imagine. (R)

12.45 Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.50** BBC News.

BBC2

6.45 Gardeners' World. (R) **7.15** The Beechgrove Garden. **7.45** Match of the Day. (R) **9.15** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **10.45** Great British Menu. (R) **11.15** Great British Menu. (R) **11.45** Great British Menu. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **2.00** Escape to the Continent. (R) **3.00** Cycling. **4.30** Flog It! (R) **5.30** Patagonia: Earth's Secret Paradise. (R)

6.30 World's Weirdest Events. Chris Packham presents more amazing stories, unearthing a whirlwind wedding ceremony. (R)

7.30 The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice. Jo Brand and three celebrity fans of BBC One's baking contest discuss the good and the bad of an episode in which the challenges included a brief to create a religieuse à l'ancienne, namely three tiers of choux pastry eclairs filled with creme pat, iced and decorated with buttercream. There is also unseen footage from the programme and an interview with the latest contestant to be eliminated. (R)

8.00 Top Gear: Best of Series 22. The team looks back at highlights of the motoring series, including the fastest new models, the most desirable classics and the craziest stunts.

9.00 Special Forces – Ultimate Hell Week. The ten remaining recruits are overseen by a representative of a Russian special forces unit. He requires them to carry heavy weights through the gruelling hills of south Wales.

10.00 Family Guy. Meg gets a job at the airport, while Cleveland becomes a therapist and gives relationship advice to Peter and Lois.

10.25 Family Guy. Brian discovers that the cure for cancer is being kept secret.

10.45 Family Guy. Brian uses Stewie's time machine to impress women at bars, but ends up breaking it and causing time to move in reverse. When they try to rebuild it, it explodes.

11.10 Film: Youth in Revolt. (2009) An awkward 16-year-old meets the girl of his dreams on holiday and embarks on a series of elaborate misadventures to be with her. Comedy, starring Michael Cera.

12.35 Film: Love Like Poison. (2010) **1.55** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **2.50** Holby City. (R) **3.50** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.20** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Fish Hooks. **7.20** Horrid Henry. **7.35** Matt Hatter Chronicles. **8.00** Marvel Avengers Assemble. **8.30** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **9.00** Horrible Science. **9.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **11.30** Rugby World Cup. **1.55** Rugby World Cup. Scotland v USA (Kick-off 2.30pm). **4.30** Rugby World Cup.

6.45 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.55 ITV News; Weather.

7.00 The X Factor. The contestants face the next stage of Boot Camp as they perform for judges Nick Grimshaw, Rita Ora, Cheryl Fernandez-Vicini and Simon Cowell in the grand surroundings of a country house. If they succeed in impressing the panel, they stand to win one of the coveted places in the six chair challenge and be one step closer to victory.

9.00 Downton Abbey. It's the final series of Julian Fellowes hugely successful upstairs-downstairs drama, but fans needn't shed a tear just yet, as there are still seven episodes to go, plus a Christmas special to wrap things up. Tonight, plans for the wedding are gathering steam, but Lady Mary's meddling lands Carson in trouble with Mrs Hughes. Cora and Violet clash over plans for the hospital takeover, and Thomas's job search is proving disheartening. Mary comes up with a fresh idea that offers Anna fresh hope, prompting a trip to London, and Lady Edith faces challenges at the magazine although it's a problem closer to home that reaches breaking point. A day for the family and servants ends in panic and leaves Robert facing a difficult decision.

10.00 ITV News; Weather.

10.20 Rugby World Cup Highlights. Australia v Uruguay, Scotland v USA and Ireland v Romania. Action from the Pool-stage matches, which took place at Villa Park, Elland Road and Wembley Stadium respectively.

11.20 Perspectives: Eddie Redmayne on War Art. (R)

12.20 Murder, She Wrote. (R) **1.20** Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **4.40** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.35** The Grid. **7.05** Volkswagen Racing Cup. **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.55** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.25 Film:** Beaches. (1988) Drama, starring Bette Midler and Barbara Hershey. **3.45 Film:** St Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold. (2009) Comedy sequel, starring Rupert Everett. **5.50** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun.

6.45 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Time Crashers. The final challenge takes the celebrities back to the Iron Age to experience life in 43AD. Greg Rutherford and Meg Mathews are elected as the group's tribal chiefs and they have two days to prepare a Celtic feast, as well as dealing with the more pressing concerns of heat, light and food. Jermaine Jenas struggles to get to grips with making fire and Chris Ramsey has trouble skinning a deer in the dark. Last in the series.

8.00 First Humans: The Cave Discovery. Documentary following the discovery of fossilised remains in a South African cave that were revealed to have come from a previously unknown species of human ancestor.

9.00 This Is England '90. Life begins to take a darker turn as autumn draws in and honesty, loyalty and forgiveness are tested to the limit among the group of young friends in the penultimate episode of Shane Meadows' 1990-set drama. Lol finds herself confronted with a seemingly impossible task and is forced to face up to some uncomfortable truths. Kelly continues on her downward spiral, while Shaun escapes the troubles of the present with a trip down memory lane. Starring Vicky McClure, Thomas Turgoose and Chanel Cresswell.

10.05 Gogglebox. Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. Narrated by Caroline Aherne. (R)

11.10 Film: This Is 40. (2012) Premiere. Comedy, starring Paul Rudd.

1.40 World of Weird. (R) **2.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.25** Location, Location, Location. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Pip Ahoy! (R) **6.45** Tickety Toc. (R) **6.55** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.05** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.15** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.25** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.45** Little Princess. (R) **8.00** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **8.10** Zack and Quack. (R) **8.25** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.45** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.00** LazyTown. (R) **9.30** Dora and Friends. (R) **9.55** SpongeBob SquarePants. **10.30** Football League Tonight. (R) **12.00** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.55** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.55 Film:** 2012. (2009) Disaster movie, starring John Cusack. **4.50 Film:** Planet of the Apes. (2001) Sci-fi adventure remake, starring Mark Wahlberg.

7.00 Film: Jackie Chan's The Forbidden Kingdom. (2008) An American teenager obsessed with kung fu movies is sent back in time to ancient China, where he joins the battle to free the imprisoned Monkey King. The only problem is he has no martial arts skills of his own, and will need the assistance of two legendary warriors to become the hero he needs to be. Martial arts adventure, starring Jet Li and Jackie Chan. Edited for violence and language.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Film: Just Go with It. (2011) Premiere. A plastic surgeon pretends to be unhappily married to seduce women. When his girlfriend finds his prop wedding ring, he claims he is getting a divorce and has to persuade his assistant to pose as his soon-to-be ex-wife, but is forced to come up with yet more lies to maintain the illusion. Romantic comedy, starring Adam Sandler, Jennifer Aniston and Nicole Kidman.

10.55 Film: Welcome to the Jungle. (2003) A bounty hunter on a rescue mission in the rainforest is drawn into a quest for a legendary artefact. Action comedy, with Dwayne Johnson, Seann William Scott and Christopher Walken.

12.45 Tattoo Disasters UK. Body art tributes to family members. (R) **1.15** SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10** Transporter: The Series. **4.00** House Doctor. A country cottage in Northamptonshire. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Formula 1: Japanese Grand Prix – Highlights **8.00** Don't Tell the Bride **9.00 Film:** Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (2011) **11.05** Family Guy **11.50** American Dad! **12.10** Family Guy **12.35** Top Coppers **1.00** Fried **1.30** Orphan Black **3.00** Girls Can Code **4.00** Close

BBC Four

7.00 Arvo Part/Robert Wilson: The Lost Paradise **8.00** The Last Journey of the Magna Carta King **9.00** Egypt's Lost Cities **10.30 Film:** Ilo Ilo (2013) **12.05** Britain's Most Fragile Treasure **1.05** Bought with Love: The Secret History of British Art Collections **2.05** Britain on Film: This Sceptred Isle **2.35** A Very British Murder with Lucy Worsley **3.35** Close

ITV2

12.35 Catchphrase Celebrity Special **1.35** You've Been Framed! **3.10 Film:** Nim's Island (2008) **5.05 Film:** The Polar Express (2004) **7.00 Film:** Uncle Buck (1989) **9.00** The Xtra Factor **10.00 Film:** 300 (2006) **12.20** Viral Tap **1.05** Reality Bites **1.45** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.10** Teleshopping **5.40** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

12.35 Agatha Christie's Sparkling Cyanide **2.30** Foyle's War **9.00** Sunday Night at the Palladium **10.00** Birds of a Feather **10.35** City Lights **11.35** Wycliffe **1.15 Film:** Ooh, You Are Awful (1972) **2.50** ITV3 Nightscreen **3.15** Emmerdale

ITV4

6.30 Goodwood Cars of the Future – Racing **7.30** Goodwood Revival 2015 **8.30** Storage Wars **9.00 Film:** Waterworld (1995) **11.40 Film:** Rambo: First Blood Part II (1985) **1.45** Hell on Wheels **2.40** Motorway Patrol **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

12.30 Film: Horton Hears a Who! (2008) **2.15** Rude(ish) Tube Short **2.30** Couples Come Dine with Me **4.30** Bad(ish) Robots **5.00** The Big Bang Theory **8.00 Film:** Star Trek (2009) **10.30** The Inbetweeners **11.30** The IT Crowd **12.35** Rude Tube **1.40** Young, Free & Single **2.45** Rules of Engagement **3.35** Hollyoaks

Film4

11.00 Man Without a Star (1955) **1.00** City of Ember (2008) **2.55** Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs (2009) **4.40** Journey to the Center of the Earth (2008) **6.30** A Good Year (2006) **9.00** Kingdom of Heaven (2005) **12.45** Lesson of Evil (2012) **3.25** Close

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

Battu's Bioscope, Channel 4, 2am

Andrzej Fidyk's documentary about a mobile cinema run by Mr Battu and his two assistants, the young Amit and 80-year-old Mama. They travel in a rickety old truck and show B-grade Indian movies using an ancient projector and a few white sheets. (1999)

TUESDAY

Finding a Family, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A teenager who was placed in the care of the state after a car crash left his mother unable to cope devotes himself to his academic career, hoping to gain a place in a respected university. Fact-based drama, starring Jared Abrahamson and Kim Delaney. (2011)

WEDNESDAY

Sliding Doors, BBC1, 11.45pm

A London woman's entire future hinges on whether or not she catches a train. In one version of events, she gets the chance to start afresh and lead a happy new life, but in the other she is stuck supporting her lazy, unfaithful boyfriend. Comedy drama, presenting two parallel stories featuring the same character. Starring Gwyneth Paltrow and John Hannah. (1998)

The Expendables, Thursday, Channel 5, 10pm

THURSDAY

The Expendables, Channel 5, 10pm

A mercenary leads his elite team on a mission to assassinate a South American dictator, only to find their target is merely a pawn and the real power in the country is a rogue CIA agent. Feeling they have been double-crossed, they abandon the operation – but are compelled to return and save a captured rebel. Action thriller, starring Sylvester Stallone. With Jet Li. (2010)

FRIDAY

Fast & Furious, ITV, 11.20pm

News of a friend's murder brings international fugitive Dominic Toretto back to his home city of Los Angeles in search of revenge. It is not long before his pursuit leads him to cross paths with FBI agent Brian O'Conner, and despite their hostile feelings toward each other, the pair work together to bring down those responsible. Thriller sequel, starring Vin Diesel, Paul Walker and Jordana Brewster. (2009)

Carol plays host to the heroes of the Nation

Have your hankies at the ready because one of the most moving ceremonies of the year is with us again.

Of course, Carol Vorderman is no stranger to The Pride of Britain Awards, but she admits they don't get any easier to host after all these years.

"It's a massive show to do, the volume that you have to learn and hold and you have to get the tone right," she explains.

"It's a massive show for one person to do so I'm exhausted by the end of it, absolutely drained. But I'm also on a high. Then when I watch it, that's when the emotion comes out."

Now in its 17th year, the star-studded gala at London's Grosvenor House Hotel will be packed with uplifting and moving stories of courage, selflessness and achievement against the odds.

Carol admits she's rather proud to be involved once more.

"I've been part of it for so long now, ever since it started 17 years ago. I'm not just someone who is brought in on the night, I've lived it and breathed it."

Is there any winner that stood out for her?

"There have been loads really. The saddest ones are the children who have been ill and then have either raised a lot of money for charity or done something remarkable and then get ill again and are no longer with us and that's really hard, it really knocks it home."

One of the reasons the shows works so well each year is the fact Carol and the winners get to know each other with a big dinner the night before.

"Because everybody travels down to London from all over the country, it's the first time they have met each other and we introduce them all.

"I try to sit and talk with everybody and at the end of the dinner I go through all of their stories, and what's remarkable is every single one of them turns around and says 'I shouldn't be here, I'm not worthy.'

They are so modest. They get great strength from meeting each other before too."

One of the most poignant prizes of last year was the first posthumous award in honour of Stephen Sutton, the blogger and activist who spent his final days raising money for the Teenage Cancer Trust.

"I remember we pushed his fundraising over the £5million mark on the night," recalls Carol. "But it's not just about people who have been ill. The lifetime achievement awards are for ordinary people that we wouldn't read about in normal Press, but they have done these remarkable things; they aren't celebrity driven or media driven or anything, and the person who has won that this year is astonishing."

Carol admits plenty of winners made her cry this year.

"One in particular, it was one of the Children of Courage winners. We saw some film at the judging panel. When you read a story it's not the same as seeing it and what this little boy did was extraordinary – I blubbed."

Carol Vorderman, The Pride of Britain Awards 2015, Thursday, ITV, 8pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

Doc Martin

ITV, 9pm

Louisa and Martin have their first therapy session together – though neither of them was expecting they would be given homework – while Morwenna is not happy about it when a teenager on work experience starts trying to boss her around in the surgery. Mrs Tishell is surprised when her husband Clive returns and tells her he wants to give things another go, and Louisa has to call Martin when one of her pupils collapses during a school excursion.

Coldplay, Ed Sheeran, Beyonce and Pearl Jam at the Global Citizen Festival

BBC1, 10.35pm

The Global Citizen Festival has been running since 2011 and last year secured financial commitments for tackling extreme poverty and disease, totalling $1.3billion – but clearly the work is ongoing, because its aim once again was to raise money and awareness in a bid to end poverty. The 2015 bash took place at New York's Central Park last weekend and was hosted by such luminaries as Hugh Jackman and Salma Hayek. Sadly, the BBC's highlights package is woefully short, but it promises to have all the best bits from the event's headliners, including Beyonce.

TUESDAY

Britain's Biggest Adventures with Bear Grylls

ITV, 9pm

He's trekked around Snowdonia in North Wales and explored the Yorkshire Dales – now Bear Grylls goes north of the border to the Scottish Highlands on an adventure that takes him from the deepest point in Britain to its highest mountain, Ben Nevis. Along the way he goes in search of freshwater pearl mussels, one of the most endangered species in the world, heads for the hills to discover how the country's magnificent highlands were formed and hears about a plan to save an ancient forest under threat because the native Scots pine has been over-run by a non-native species.

WEDNESDAY

All Star Mr & Mrs

ITV, 8pm

The honeymoon period might be over for another three couples as Phillip Schofield returns to test their knowledge of each other's likes, dislikes and habits. First up are former Corrie actor Jimi Mistry and his wife, one-time Strictly Come Dancing dancer Flavia Cacace-Mistry, tennis legend Martina Navratilova and her wife Julia Lemigova, and Good Morning Britain presenter Sean Fletcher and his wife Luned. The three couples reveal how much they know about each other over two rounds, before the winners play for £30,000 for their chosen charity. However, no one walks away empty-handed, as the losers each receive £5,000 for a good cause – not to mention the much-coveted Mr & Mrs carriage clock.

Coldplay, Ed Sheeran, Beyoncé and Pearl Jam at the Global Citizen Festival, Monday, BBC1, 10.35pm

Doctor Foster

BBC1, 9pm

After the revelation that those around her are also holding onto secrets, Gemma throws herself into a new start with her husband. However, when the respected senior GP discovers that someone is out to get her on a professional level, she must steel herself as the pressure begins to mount. Simon appears to be supportive of her, but she needs to make a decision as to whether or not the man she married is to be trusted. Starring Suranne Jones.

THURSDAY

Who Do You Think You Are?

BBC1, 9pm

Anita Rani makes her second BBC One appearance of the week, although unlike her Strictly Come Dancing performance, this delve into her family's past proves to be a much more sobering affair. Anita never met her maternal grandfather Sant Singh, but she knows he had another wife and family before meeting her grandmother – and that he suffered terrible tragedy at the time of India's Partition. Here the broadcaster travels to India to see if she can find out more about his first family and what happened to them.

FRIDAY

Have I Got News for You

BBC1, 9pm

New series. Team captains Ian Hislop and Paul Merton bound back for the 50th run of the series, which has been appearing regularly on BBC screens now since 1990. They will find a domestic political climate much changed since the spring, now that the Conservatives have settled into majority government and the Labour opposition has undergone a transformation. But it may prove quite a feat for them and their guest participants to find a humorous edge to many of the current world affairs stories.

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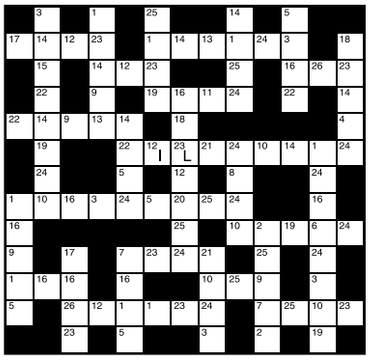
Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23 L
11	24
12 I	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
N	R	I	C	L	M	Z	Q	X	D	E	T	U
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
W	Y	A	P	F	O	J	G	K	V	S	H	B

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

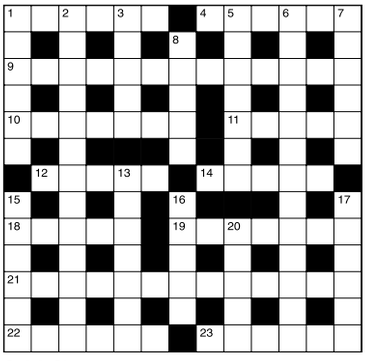
Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Begin with a counter-claim? (3-3)
4. Attack makes idiot be ill (6)
9. Everything free in vain (3,3,7)
10. Gives out that I am to get thong back (7)
11. The smallest tales (5)
12. Pick-me-up in cot (5)
14. Get over being annoyed? (5)
18. Staggers on film? (5)
19. Red racer at pit (7)
21. Reasonable stipulation as to not bad state (4,9)
22. Sign up (6)
23. See art as a difficult puzzle (6)

Down

1. Not moving from the attics (6)
2. It shows the cost of rings (9,4)
3. Speaker, not the chairman, holds it (5)
5. Colonist who pays up? (7)
6. Natural exuberance shown by beastly ghosts? (6,7)
7. Mental powers that dispel the gloom? (6)
8. Employed partly to train us each week (2,3)
13. Creatures belong to religious bodies (7)
15. Toy with the sweet, perhaps (6)
16. As created by quarrelsome actors? (5)
17. Thinner person resting? (6)
20. Breed to a higher standard, perhaps (5)



Quick Clues:

Across

1. Seem (6)
4. Suitable (6)
9. Reporter (13)
10. Harbour (7)
11. Happen (5)
12. Decree (5)
14. Collection (5)
18. Contract (5)
19. Blow up (7)
21. Working together (13)
22. Audacious (6)
23. Opportunity (6)

Down

1. Admission (6)
2. Vertical (13)
3. Representative (5)
5. Spitefulness (7)
6. Absorption (13)
7. Withdraw (6)
8. Extra (5)
13. Sure (7)
15. Flinched (6)
16. Less (5)
17. Alliance (6)
20. Gleam (5)

Sudoku

9			1	2				8
					6	9	1	
6		4			5	7		
3				8				7
	2	9	5		7	1		
				6				5
1		3	4			6		9
		8	3				5	
				1	8			2

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

3	1	9	5	8	6	7	2	4
6	4	8	9	2	7	1	3	5
2	5	7	1	3	4	6	9	8
5	7	2	3	6	8	9	4	1
8	6	1	4	5	9	2	7	3
4	9	3	7	1	2	8	5	6
1	8	5	2	9	3	4	6	7
7	2	6	8	4	5	3	1	9
9	3	4	6	7	1	5	8	2

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Pair of braces; 7 Final; 8 Rider; 9 Won; 10 Closeness; 11 Torero; 12 Estate; 15 Forestall 17 Now; 18 River; 19 Medal; 21 Growing pains. Down: 1 Play with fire; 2 Own; 3 Bellow; 4 Air-vessel; 5 Endue; 6 Crossed wires; 7 Finer; 10 Corkscrew; 13 Annul; 14 Gammon; 16 Rover; 20 Dip. QUICK - Across: 1 Gross neglect; 7 Cleft; 8 Theme; 9 Eye; 10 Generator; 11 Impale; 12 Albion; 15 Eruditely; 17 Tor; 18 China; 19 Baker; 21 In attendance. Down: 1 Give evidence; 2 See; 3 Extend; 4 Laterally; 5 Cheat; 6 Rear entrance; 7 Cheap; 10 Gallivant; 13 Inter; 14 Feeble; 16 Union; 20 Kid.

Thinking space

Quiz

1. When was Count von Zeppelin's first airship built?
2. Which famous king was son of Findlaech?
3. What sort of fruit is a morello?
4. In which year did Sitting Bull die?
5. What is a pixel?
6. What is the capital of Corsica?
7. What is the SI unit of electrical charge?
8. Which artist painted Nude Descending a Staircase?
9. In which country is Casablanca?
10. What are the international vehicle registration letters for Bahrain?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Allan Pinkerton; 2 Scarlet pimpernel; 3 Lady Jane Grey; 4 Elizabeth Barrett Browning; 5 Cobalt; 6 Goldfish; 7 Tonto; 8 Duke Ellington; 9 Professor Plum; 10 Cherry.

Niner: INSULATED

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

564 gives something to wear,
3725 gives something else to wear,
38119 gives something else to wear.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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Will petrol become a fuel for enthusiasts in future?

There are all manner of alternative fuels being touted as the best replacement for petrol. From electric energy and hydrogen to compressed air, all seek to supply greener, cleaner power for our cars.

However, anyone writing the obituary of petrol would do well to stay their pen as reports of its demise are more than a little premature.

Depending on who you speak to and who you choose to believe, fossil fuels have a future of anywhere between 30 and 100 years.

The reasons for such a huge variation in expert estimates are down to the cost of extracting the fuel from the ground.

There will come a point where accessing oil to refine into petrol and diesel will simply no longer be cost-effective on a large scale.

However, this does not mean we will see the end of petrol even then. In the short term, there will still be plenty of cars running around that need petrol for their engines, even if those engines are assisted by a hybrid power source.

Another longer term outcome for petrol is that it will become a fuel used by enthusiasts for their cherished vehicles. It may well be much more expensive than it presently is, despite many thinking fuel is too pricey already.

Fans of the combustion engine, and all the power, noise and fun it offers, will still be drawn to petrol as the fuel of choice. Instead of running their everyday car on unleaded, they will have an up-to-date alternative fuel car and save the good stuff for the weekend when they can go cruising, racing or just having fun in their petrol-powered pet car.

Just as we see classic cars nowadays being run on petrol mixed with additives to protect elderly engines, so future drivers will regard petrol as something to use in a car that's a hobby, not a daily proposition.

Enthusiasts may also have to accept some limitations to using their petrol-fuelled fun cars.

For instance the mayor of Paris has banned all cars built before 1997 from the city centre in a bid to clear up air pollution.

This could mean petrol heads being restricted by where and when they can drive, but given the passion for petrol-powered cars, it seems likely they will be allowed some freedom to enjoy their pastime.

For those who see this as ridiculous and argue it is allowing a polluting few to enjoy themselves at the expense of the many, the number of miles covered by classic car owners is small and their vehicles are generally maintained to a very high standard.

The impact of a group of enthusiasts enjoying petrol-engined cars in the future will be very small.

Given the cost of petrol in such a world will be very high, owners of such cars will be unlikely to cover large distances anyway.

While the demise of petrol may have been exaggerated in recent times, it is undoubtedly set to become a less common fuel in the decades ahead. However, there will always be a place for it among enthusiasts' that will see it remain for a long time to come.

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MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. At the end of the agreement there are 3 options: (i) Renew: Part exchange the vehicle, (ii) Retain: Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle. Further charges may be made subject to mileage and condition of the vehicle. Excess mileage charge 14.9p per mile. Subject to status. T&Cs apply. 18s or over. Guarantee/Indemnity may be required. Kia Motors Finance RH1 1SR. Models shown for illustration only. Finance examples featured: Kia Picanto '1' 3-door manual at £8,095 including £250 customer saving (Non offer price £8,345); Kia Rio '1' 3-door 1.25 manual at £10,145 including £200 customer saving (Non offer price £10,345); Kia cee'd '1' 5-door 1.4 petrol manual at £14,305 including £500 customer saving (Non offer price £14,805); Kia Sportage '1' 5-door 1.6 GDi manual at £17,500. Customer savings vary by model derivative. Care-3 is the Kia Servicing Package that covers routine servicing and excludes wear parts. Offer not available with any other offer. Retail sales only. Details correct at time of going to press. 7 year/100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. For full terms and exclusions visit www.kia.co.uk.

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2013 13 DUSTER LAUREATE 1.5 DCI 110 DIESEL 5-Dr alloy wheels air con roof rails only £130 RFL for year £8,999

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2012 62 500 1.2 LOUNGE STOP/START 3-Dr In White with Panoramic Roof alloy wheels air con 28118 miles £6,999
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FORD

2011 11 FIESTA 1.2 EDGE 3-Dr Bright Red with Privacy glass electric windows & air con just 25000 miles £5,999
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2010 10 FOCUS 2.0 CC2 2-Dr COUPE CONVERTIBLE alloy wheels air con blue metallic only 35000 miles £6,999
2006 06 FOCUS 2.5 ST-2 5-Dr in Orange with White Alloys look amazing very rare needs viewing enough said !!! £6,999
2010 60 MONDEO 2.0 TITANIUM X 5-Dr half leather trim 17" alloy wheels air con full service history £6,999
2009 09 KUGA 2.0 TDCI DIESEL TITANIUM 5-Dr half leather trim 17" Alloys climate control value !! £8,999

HYUNDAI

2005 55 TUSCON 2.0 GSI 5-Dr alloy wheels air con excellent condition look only 62916 miles with history £3,499

KIA

2008 08 SORENTO TITAN 2.5 CRDI 5-Dr leather air con alloys only 70201 miles with history best tow car !! £8,999

SMART

2003 53 SMART CITY PURE 61 SEMI AUTO 3-Dr in White with Black Roof electric windows only 59000 miles £2,499

SUZUKI

2011 60 SWIFT 1.2 SZ2 5-Dr alloy wheels rear spoiler electric windows stunner only 34019 miles £5,999
2008 58 SWIFT 1.5 GLX 3-Dr alloy wheels rear spoiler electric windows stunner 5 stamps in service book £3,999
2008 58 SX4 1.6 GLX 5-Dr alloy air con 6 stamps in service book in electric blue very clean £4,499
2010 60 GRAND VITARA 1.6VVTi SZ4 3-Dr 17" alloys air con roof rails with history only 45780 miles £7,999
2003 53 WAGON R+LIMITED 5-Dr alloy wheels sunroof excellent condition rare car look only 50000 miles £1,999

VAUXHALL

2012 62 CORSA 1.2 VVT Sxi 3-Dr Bright Red alloy wheels with full history only 36486 miles stunner £5,999
2011 61 CORSA 1.2 LIMITED EDITION 3-Dr Yellow with Black Roof & Black alloys only 32000 miles 1 owner £6,999
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2012 12 UP ! 1.0 Tsi TAKE UP 3-Dr low insurance cheap to tax and run look only 7487 miles !! £5,999

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2006 06 Z4 2.5 SI SPORT 2-Dr CONVERTIBLE Silver Metallic with Black leather only 61337 miles & History £8,999
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2011 61 207 1.4 HDI DIESEL ACTIVE 3-Dr air con front fog lights Electric Blue only 16438 miles £20 RFL for year £6,999
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2011 61 207 1.4 HDI DIESEL ACTIVE 3-Dr air con front fog lights electric blue only 16438 miles £20 RFL for year £6,999
2006 56 207 SPORT 1.6 HDi DIESEL 110 3-Dr alloys air con very economical to tax and run low insurance £3,499
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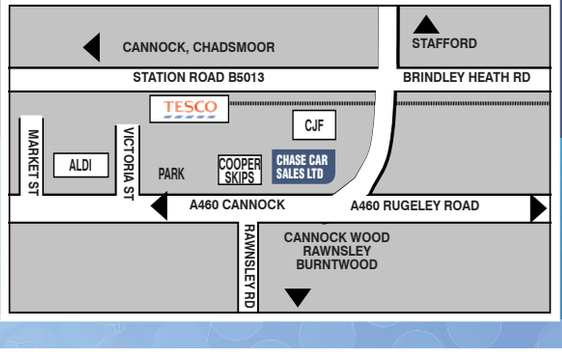

Style and quality in new Navara

The all-new Nissan NP300 Navara sets a new benchmark in the one-tonne pick-up sector, combining the best of Nissan's crossover leadership with over 80 years of experience in designing and manufacturing robust and cleverly engineered pick-ups.

Improving comfort and refinement while maintaining the Navara's acclaimed off-road ability, durability and loading capacity, was a cornerstone of the vehicle's development.

The introduction of a five year or 100,000 mile manufacturer warranty with the new NP300 Navara is further testament to the vehicle's credentials, and provides additional peace of mind for customers.

In-line with Nissan innovation, the new NP300 Navara introduces an array of new technology.In a sector that has traditionally been slow to adopt the very latest in comfort and safety features, it sets a new benchmark for affordable technology. Around View Monitor and Forward Emergency Braking – both highly acclaimed Crossover safety features – are unique to the pick-up market and provide customers with more advanced levels of technology than ever before in a pick-up truck. Further safety and convenience features include Cruise Control, Hill Descent Control and Hill Start Assist, all of which have been developed to meet the specific demands of NP300 Navara owners, as well as keyless entry, rear-view camera and parking sensors.

Improving refinement and delivering a crossover-style driving experience was a key element of the NP300 Navara's development. To help achieve this without compromising the vehicle's acclaimed off-road ability, Nissan has designed an all-new five-link rear suspension system for the double cab model, providing significantly improved ride comfort and handling, and is 20kg lighter than the previous layout.

The King Cab features a substantially updated version of the leaf spring design fitted to the previous generation model.

Every element of the cabin has been optimised to provide the best possible quality, comfort, space and practicality for drivers and passengers.

Designed and engineered for the specific requirements and preferences of the European market, and also manufactured in Europe, the NP300 Navara has been designed to deliver a rugged yet sporty overall style, with a mix of convex and concave surfaces fora dynamic and bold look. Nissan's signature V-motion grille and boomerang shaped LED daytime running lights provide distinctive Nissan design cues.

The Navara's new 2.3-litre dCi engine is up to 24 per cent more efficient than the unit it replaces and is the cleanest and most economical in sector. Available with two power output options, 118kW (160PS) and 140kW (190PS), the range-topping version introduces twin turbocharging technology to the sector for the first time and delivers exceptionally low running costs and reduced CO2 emissions.

Great engines need great transmissions, and again the new Navara excels. The latest model will launch with the choice of two or four-wheel drive and the option of a standard six-speed manual or a seven-speed automatic gearbox.

As customers have come to expect, the new NP300 Navara is as capable off-road as it is on-road. The four-wheel drive system builds on the strengths of the design fitted to the previous generation model, and delivers sure-footed traction over rough terrain. Knowing that pick-up owners need their vehicles to earn their keep, the NP300 Navara's load carrying and towing ability across the range is improved. With payload ratings now in excess of one tonne across the range and an impressive towing capacity of 3,500kg, the new NP300Navara is ready for the toughest and most demanding of jobs or leisure pursuits.

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Latest smart cabrio is three cars in one

The countdown has started for the new fortwo cabrio, a particularly iconic variant of the new model series.

The open-top two-seater had its world premiere at the Frankfurt Motor Show earlier this month and will be available for ordering from mid-November with the first models reaching dealers in February 2016.

Three cars in one: at the touch of a button the new smart cabrio is transformed from a closed two-seater into a car with a large sliding canvas sunroof, or a fully fledged cabriolet with the soft top completely open. This enables the fresh air driving experience to be adapted to the weather or the driver's mood. This flexibility offered by the "tritop" folding soft top and the removable roof bars is a special feature – and not just in this segment. At the same time, the new smart cabrio is the only true cabriolet in its class.

Customers can choose between three different colours for the "tritop" fabric soft top: blue denim, red or black. The headlining is always grey. The removable roof bars that can be stowed in a compartment in the tailgate come in the tridion colour.

When the sun peeps out from behind the clouds, smart fortwo cabrio drivers can react quickly: the soft top can be opened automatically in 12 seconds – even when driving at top speed. The top can also be opened from outside the car by remote control.

Removing the side roof bars enables a full-blown cabrio experience. The roof bars can be stowed on the inside of the tailgate. This stowage compartment in the tailgate also offers additional stowage space for small items, for example fluorescent jacket, first-aid kit or warning triangle.

With an area of 1.8 m2 the "tritop" fabric soft top is approximately four percent larger than its predecessor. The outer covering is made of a particularly lightfast polyacrylic fabric and the inside features a polyester/cotton mix. There is a rubber layer in the middle. The soft top has a total thickness of 20 mm. The rear windscreen is heated and is made of glass.

The new cabrio will initially be available with two state-of-the-art three-cylinder engines rated at 71 hp and 90 hp. Both engines can be combined with the five-speed manual transmission or the fully automatic twinamic dual clutch transmission.

Needless to say, the smart fortwo cabrio has the agility typical of the brand and turning manoeuvres are extremely simple.

In addition to the three lines passion, prime and proxy, customers can choose from a large range of safety and comfort features – including the new features added in the latest facelift such as smartphone integration with MirrorLink® (standard in combination with the smart Media-System) or the Urban Style package (including black wheel arch linings and lowering kit).

The high-quality interior of the smart fortwo cabrio corresponds to that of the closed variant with standard features including two sun visors with make-up mirrors, a centre console with drawer and coat hooks at the rear on the crossbar. A wind deflector is optionally available.

The interior styling is characterised by a "dynamic loop" as a signature feature throughout the interior.

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DRIVETIME

Thrill of perfect grip tyres

Continental is continuing its successful range of ultra high-performance summer tyres with the introduction of the new SportContact 6.

The new high-technology tyre is now available in an initial launch range of forty-one dimensions, produced for rims with diameters of between 19 and 23 inches. The SportContact 6 is particularly suited to pure sports cars such as the Audi R8 or Porsche 911 as well as vehicles such as the BMW 5 Series or Mercedes AMG.

The range also includes a suitable tyre for the electrically powered Tesla Model S.

Continental expects this ultra high-performance market segment to become increasingly popular with customers and is anticipating annual market growth of just under 10 per cent for the various sizes of the new SportContact 6. The new high-technology tyre has already received its first seal of quality, with Honda approving the tyre for the new Civic Type R before its official release, achieving an impressive lap record on the Nürburgring.

To boost the performance of the new SportContact 6 even more, the chemists at Continental have further developed the "Black Chili" tread compound. In the new SportContact 6, two factors ensure optimum adhesion when pushed to the limits. The rubber compound is designed to mesh with the roughness of the road. At the same time, temporary atomic connections between the tyre compound and the road surface ensure high adhesion, acting like small suction pads at nanoscopic level. Both factors make for the greatest possible adhesion in all directions – during braking, cornering, and acceleration on both wet and dry roads.

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Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Suzuki Swift range mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km): Urban 41.5-46.3 (6.8-6.1), Extra Urban 57.6-64.2 (4.9-4.4), Combined 50.4-56.5 (5.6-5.0), CO2 emissions 128-116 g/km.
Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Suzuki SX4 S-Cross range mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km): Urban 39.7-55.3 (7.1-5.1), Extra Urban 55.3-76.3 (5.1-3.7), Combined 47.8-67.2 (5.9-4.2), CO2 emissions 135-110 g/km.
Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Suzuki Celerio range mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km): Urban 55.3-55.3 (5.1-5.1), Extra Urban 76.3-76.3 (3.7-3.7), Combined 65.7-65.7 (4.3-4.3), CO2 emissions 99-99 g/km.
Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Suzuki Vitara range mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km): Urban 42.1-61.4 (6.7-4.6), Extra Urban 55.4-76.3 (5.1-3.7), Combined 49.5-70.6 (5.7-4.0), CO2 emissions 131-106 g/km.
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deaths

FAMILY

ANNOUNCEMENT

CUSTOMER

INFORMATION

Please note that the deadline for our weekly Cannock Chronicle is 11.30am every Tuesday for the same weeks edition.

BARFOOT

Paul

Of Heath Hayes.

Passed away at his home after a short illness aged 65 years.

The devoted Husband of Janet and beloved Dad of Mark and Chris, also a loving Grandad, Brother, Uncle, Brother-in-law, Father-in-law and Friend.

Service will be held at St John's Church, Heath Hayes, on Friday, September 25, at 10.30am, followed by Committal at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only.

Donations to St John's Church.

The Funeral care has been entrusted to

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Brindley House,

75, Broadhurst Green,

Hednesford.

Telephone 01543 879866.

BAKER

Keith John

Passed away on Saturday, September 12, 2015, at Royal Stoke University Hospital, aged 68.

The Funeral Service will take place at Stafford Crematorium, on Monday, September 28, 2015, at 12 noon.

Family flowers only.

Any donations received will be given to New Cross Critical Care and University Hospital Stoke Critical Care.

These can be forwarded c/o

PHILLIP EMERY

Funeral Directors

Bedford House

15 Bow Street

Rugeley

WS15 2BT

01889 582274

HOUGH

Kathryn

formerly Butler and nee Sunley

Sadly passed away September 16, aged 61 years.

A very special Lady who was loved by all her Family and Friends.

Her Funeral Service will take place at 10.30am, Thursday, October 1, at Stafford Crematorium.

Come dressed to visit a Friend.

Family flowers only but donations would be appreciated for British Heart Foundation, Birmingham Children's Hospital and Stafford Critical Care Unit c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
70 Church Street, Cannock, WS11 1DW
01543 502322

POWELL

Alfred Ian

(Ian)

Sadly passed away on Wednesday, September 16, 2015, aged 77 years.

Much loved and missed by all his Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service is to be held on Friday, September 25, at 2.30pm, at Chadsmoor Methodist Church, followed by Committal at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, for The Grange Residential Home.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
70 Church Street, Cannock, WS11 1DW
01543 502322

WHETTALL

Richard

Passed away peacefully on Wednesday, September 16, 2015, aged 71 years.

Sadly missed by Joyce, all his Family and many Friends.

The Funeral Service is to be held on Tuesday, September 29, at 1pm, at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only please.

Donations, if desired, for Macmillan Cancer Support.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
70 Church Street, Cannock, WS11 1DW
01543 502322

birthday remembrances

STEWART

Adam Duncan

Forty today, September 22.

What we would give if we could say happy birthday to our Son today.

Miss you always.

Love, Mom and Dad.

X X X

acknowledgements

BRADSHAW

Trevor

Thanks to everyone who attended Trevor's Funeral, also for cards and donations raised, totalling £335 for The Wolverhampton Children's Ward.

Special thanks to Co-Op Funeral Directors, Margaret and Family, Mary and Friends, Roy and Maureen, and the Vicar at Stonnal for a lovely Service.

RODIC

Laura

The Family would like to thank all who attended Laura's Funeral.

Thank you to A.J.Sellman, Gwyn Taylor for a lovely Service, Harrisons Club and Pat Horobin for the catering.

A total of £600 was raised which has been donated to Cancer Research UK.

congratulations

MORRIS

Sean

Congratulations on attaining a BA with 1st Class Honours and the Sandvik award for excellence in Sculpture.

So proud of you.

Love, Mommy.

X X

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENT CUSTOMER INFORMATION

Please note that the deadline for our weekly Cannock Chronicle is 11.30am every Tuesday for the same weeks edition.

www.myfamilyannouncements.co.uk/expressandstar

www.myfamilyannouncements.co.uk/expressandstar

Engagements
condolences
memories
birthdays
weddings & births

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elderly & disabled

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what's on

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3 Home & Services

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5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

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business directory

business opportunities

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if you would like to be considered for this role please send your cv and covering letter to:
HR Department Midland News Association, Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES
or by e-mail to: **hr@mnamedia.co.uk Closing date: Friday 9th October 2015**

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NINA

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9 Local Information

public & legal notices

DANIEL LAVERY (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 1 Raven Close Huntington Cannock Staffordshire WS12 4TQ, who died on 31/10/2014, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 04/12/2015, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
HCB SOLICITORS
20 Lichfield Street Walsall WS1 1TJ
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BETTY LILIAN WESTMANCOAT (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 1 Raven Close Huntington Cannock Staffordshire WS12 4TQ, who died on 26/01/2015, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 04/12/2015, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
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Anything considered.
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EXPERIENCED HGV TRUCK & TRAILER Mechanic based in Rugeley. A knowledge of Volvo or MAN trucks would be an advantage. Occasional callouts may be required. Rate of pay will be based on experience
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EXPERIENCED PARA PLANNER / PA required to work with Practice Principal. Ability to work with HNW clients and be pro-active essential. Located: ST19 area. Level 3 qualifications desirable but not essential. Excellent communication skills and customer care paramount. Apply: ianperry@conceptfinancialservices.co.uk

EXPERIENCED UPVC WINDOW, DOOR & Conservatory Fitter required. Excellent rates of pay. Small family business near Cannock. Call Steve 01922 413013

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Contact 01543 491444 or tracy@blackandwhite contractorsltd.net

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THE COUNCIL IS TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING PROPOSALS

Cannock Chase Council

Application Affecting The Setting of The Conservation Area Land adj 19 Market Street Rugeley

CH/15/0364 - Proposed demolition of clubhouse and construction of 14 single bedroom supported living apartments (C3) with ancillary accommodation for training and support, parking and amenity space.
All applications may be inspected at the Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock.
Applications relating to Rugeley and Brereton may also be inspected at the Rugeley Area Housing Office, Anson Street, Rugeley
The Council has published a Service Charter for publicity and information about planning applications and a Code of Conduct for the Planning Process both of which are obtainable from Council Offices free of charge.
If you wish to make comments or representations about any of the above proposals you should do so in writing to the Planning Services Manager, Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock, WS11 1BG or by emailing to developmentcontrol@cannockchasedc.gov.uk by 15/10/2015 Please include a daytime telephone number in your reply and quote the appropriate reference when calling or writing.

www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
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10 Personals

personal

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6 Property

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8 Motoring

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PEUGEOT PARTNER WAV. 1.4 Horizon, 2010, Disabled wheelchair access ramp with electric winch, lowered floor. one lady owner, 43,000 miles, 4 seats. Excellent condition. £5,250 ono. 07976 653388.

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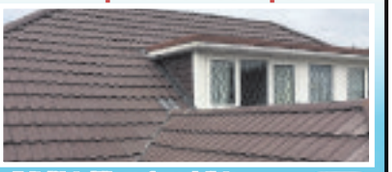
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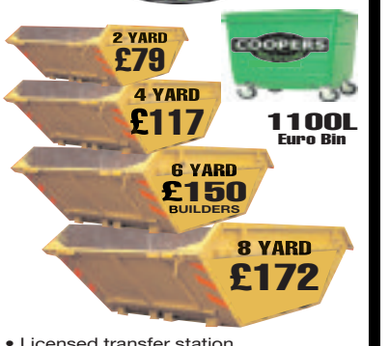
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Cheslyn Hay Tennis Club was formed in 2013 with the sole aim to increase participation in tennis locally.

Cheslyn Hay Tennis organises tennis sessions throughout the week For more information email cheslynhaytennis@live.com or phone Chris Perrin on 07969 829318.

The results were as followsUnder-9 Mixed Singles: Winner: Josh Davies RU: Luke Perry; Under-11 Mixed Singles: Winner: Josh Davies RU: James Dorricott; Under-14 Singles: Winner: Jake Smith RU: James Clark; Under-14 Newcomer Singles: Winner: Max Price RU: Joe Coyne; Under-18 Singles: Winner: Sam Clarie RU: Sam Farnell and Mens Singles Winner: James Perrin RU: Chris Perrin

Etheridge is lapping up being top keeper

NEIL ETHERIDGE is loving life at Walsall after establishing himself as the club's No.1.

The 25-year-old has made an impressive start to his Saddlers career after being snapped up by boss Dean Smith in the summer.

After helping guide the Saddlers to the top of League One table, Etheridge missed the defeats to Morecambe and Bury at the start of the month after being called up for international duty with the Philippines.

And the goalkeeper admits it was a huge boost to be placed straight back into the team to face Doncaster on Saturday.

"It was fantastic for me to get my place back in the team," he said. "It was disappointing for Craig MacGillivray after two losses, I guess it was a chance for him. But for me, I've been concentrating on myself. The performances I had at the start of the season, I believe, justify why I got my shirt back straight back after the international break. It was great to be back and also great to be back to winning ways."

Etheridge rewarded Smith's faith in him with a man-of-the-match performance in the 2-0 win over Rovers. And that result means the glovesman is yet to lose in a Saddlers shirt.

"That's pressure for you," he joked. "I haven't lost and that is absolutely fantastic.

"It was very disappointing while I was away on international duty to see the club lose twice if I'm honest.

"I'm a very unselfish guy in that respect and I wanted the club to win and continue the form we were in – unfortunately we didn't."

Cannock ride in on a high to grab win

Wednesbury 14 Cannock 33

CANNOCK arrived at a very sunny Wednesbury full of optimism and confidence from a strong performance against Tamworth the previous week.

The game was swiftly underway after a solid warm up and the first 30 minutes saw Cannock dominate territory and possession.

Scott Pedley orchestrated a composed and dynamic attack with good balance of forward and backs.

Once play resumed after Gareth Ley was injured, it was Wednesbury against the run of play who first registered points on the board.

A wayward pass from a Cannock attack saw Wednesbury's winger quickly capitalise and break but tackled on Cannock's five metre line.

Two phases more saw Wednesbury finish in the corner.

The try was converted and saw the half finish 7-0 to the home side.

Cannock knew that they were hard done by this score line, but harder work was needed in the second half.

Perfect

Cannock regained possession from a millimetre perfect restart from Pedley and a devastating looking Pincombe collected recycled ball from Frost to deny four Wednesbury tacklers, and finish neatly in the corner.

Pedley converted.

Wednesbury were soon to reply and minutes later the seven point difference was re-established.

A couple of substitutions from Coach Tomlinson saw fresh legs and pace injected and this instantly gave Cannock the possession and dominance they enjoyed in the first half hour of the game.

Determined support play from Stanaway and Brookes ensured the menacing Wednesbury back row could no longer disrupt the break down.

This saw the backs move with confidence and deservedly so Humphries was next to cross the line. Scores were levelled with Pedley's conversion.

The rest of the game saw Cannock continue to press the now tiring Wednesbury backs and brilliant game management from Pedley and Pincombe saw Cannock exploit the right wing.

In the thick of the action as a Wednesbury player is brought down by the Cannock defence

The impressive fire power in the pack from Shirley, Lathe, Gunter, Forrester and Richards saw countless scrums and line outs turned over.

A disrupted Wednesbury line out saw Freeman pounce to add to his already impressive tally for the season.

Kicking excellence from Pedley gave Cannock a well-deserved seven point lead. This was quickly doubled as Fullelove's handling saw the determined looking Stanaway unleashed down the wing, who offloaded to find the inform Pincombe who touched down for the bonus.

A similar move saw Stanaway and Frost skilfully move down the right hand touch line.

AWednesbury full back only delayed Brookes, who stretched out at finger tips for the fifth try.

Result is decided in first half for Blues

Ipswich 1 Blues 1

BIRMINGHAM held out for a 1-1 draw to prevent hosts Ipswich returning to the top two in the Championship table.

The match was settled following a first-half goal apiece as Brett Pitman's penalty cancelled out David Cotterill's opener for the visitors.

Ipswich should have turned one point into three but Luke Chambers, Daryl Murphy and man of the match Ainsley Maitland-Niles were all guilty of spurning great chances in the second half.

Pitman had already tested Tomasz Kuszczak from distance before the hosts hit the post twice inside the first seven minutes. First Blues midfielder Maikel Kieftenbeld got his head to an Ipswich corner but inadvertently hit the outside of his own post before home striker Freddie Sears fired a shot which shaved the woodwork after good work from Maitland-Niles.

The visitors who took a surprise lead halfway through the first half when Andrew Shinnie took advantage of a slip from Christophe Berra to play in Cotterill, whose near-post drive was too powerful for Gerken. Ipswich clawed their way back into the game after a slightly fortuitous penalty decision.

A lung-busting run from Maitland-Niles, which started in his own half, ended with him being brought down by Jonathan Spector and Pitman made no mistake from 12 yards.

Cotterill then went close to adding his and Birmingham's second with a dipping free-kick which Gerken just about pushed away.

Cannock keep run of wins going in cup

Audley & District Reserves 1
Cannock Utd 2
Staffordshire FA Challenge Cup

CANNOCK United continue their unbeaten run, seeing off ADR.

Danny Bowen opened the score on eight minutes, in a game Cannock dominated.

A misjudged save, from a Brad Kelly free kick on 44 minutes saw ADR gain the equaliser to make the score even by half time.

Cannock started the second half quickly, scoring on 46 minutes.

Josh Wheeler netted his first for the club and sealed the win.

Cannock controlled the second half and restricted ADR to just one attempt on goal.

Cannock will now face Milton United Away in the 1st round on October 3.

MoM went to Josh Wheeler

Dylan's hard work pays off with belt

MARTIAL Art student Dylan Johannes, aged 12, has seen his six months of martial arts training pay off with his first belt.

Dylan trains at Black Star Aikido at The Village Hall, Cheslyn Hay on Monday and Friday evenings.

On Friday September 18 he took his first grading under a panel of black belts which included Samuel Wright and Max Grosvenor Hayes both 2nd Dans. The organisation Chief Instructor Tony Brown 6th Dan supervised the grading.

Sam Wright who is now 20 years old said: "I started training even younger than Dylan.

" I remember wearing my yellow belt for the first time and just feeling great. I knew there and then I wanted to get my black belt in Aikido. Dylan showed great spirit in his movements."

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Sport

Championship is a tennis celebration
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Team ride in on a high for victory
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Blox crushed by on-form Burntwood

Bloxwich 5 Burntwood 53

BLOXWICH suffered a crushing home defeat as Burntwood followed up their opening day bonus point win with another in Midlands 3 West North.

They ran in eight tries again, this time from seven different scorers, and added five conversions from skipper Ben Holt and a penalty goal from Owen Rookyard.

It was Rookyard who opened the scoring with the first two tries of the afternoon, the opener after five minutes.

Danny Duggan put Owen Rookyard away to the bottom corner.

Duggan then made a run to half way before feeding his co-centre who touched down under the posts for Holt to add the conversion.

Burntwood's next score came via a Bloxwich attack. Duggan intercepted a pass on his own 22 and raced clean away to the posts for a try converted by Holt.

Owen Rookyard concluded the first half scoring with a well-struck penalty .

Just as Bedworth returned, the hosts temporarily went down to 14 due to a deliberate knock-on and Burntwood capitalised on their advantage with three tries.

A good passing move right and then left was finished off by Luke Rookyard with a try in the top corner. Direct from the restart, Alan Mapp, Josh Canning and Latham combined to send Holt on a weaving run across field. When tackled, he offloaded to replacement Darryll Organ who crashed over under the posts for Holt to convert.

O'Brienfended off a tackler in a strong run down the touchline to the corner for a well-earned try.

Another spell of Bloxwich pressure was resisted before Burntwood added to their lead on 70 minutes.

Hayes' show of four-ce keeps the side's sheet clean

Heather 0 Heath Hayes 4

HEATH Hayes made a successful trip to Leicestershire to play Heather and came back with a 4-0 win.

Hayes got off to the start they wanted when after eight minutes James Russell volleyed an 18-yard blockbuster into the roof of the net.

They continued to take the game to Heather whose keeper Ben Allsop excelled

This brought a second goal on 30 minutes when Joe Pickering left the Heather back line trailing and went on to give Allsop little chance.

The second half saw Heather come more into the game but failed to put Hayes keeper Mark Wiggins under any undue pressure.

The home side, using the pace of Pickering and Joe Hartshorne, got their reward when the latter was adjudged to have been bought down and got to his feet to convert the penalty.

Dean Watkiss replaced Joe Pickering and scored around the keeper for the fourth.

Hayes then saw out the game comfortable.

Scholars have win snatched away

Gresley 2 Chasetown 1

CHASETOWN had victory snatched away from them after dominating the second half but failing to take their chances and eventually went down 2-1.

After a quiet opening, managerless Gresley took the lead in the 28th minute when Alex Steadman got into space and slid it across to Chris Richards, who fired into an empty net.

In a half devoid of chances, Paul Sullivan went closest for Chasetown with a well-struck free-kick that Liam Roberts was equal to with a dive to his left.

Football

After the interval, Chasetown took hold of the game and Jono Gould was narrowly wide of the post.

James Dance forced Roberts into a save at the near post before Lucas Harrison headed a Francino Francis chance off the line.

Substitute Nick Turton was clean through on goal with Roberts again saving as Chasetown took control of the match.

Eventually the pressure paid off and Rhys Thompson's cross was sliced into his own goal by John Guy. However, against the run of play, former Scholar Steadman slipped the ball through the legs of Francis and drove the ball low past a largely redundant Bateman.

The result leaves the Scholars in 18th place.

Belper Town 0 Chasetown 0

A game of very few clear-cut chances saw a share of the points in Evo-Stik Division One South.

Within the opening minutes home keeper Dan Haystead brilliantly tipped a Jono Gould shot onto the bar.

Neither side looked like breaking the deadlock and honours were deservedly shared.

WINNING GOAL ELUDES PITMEN

Brackley Town 1 Hednesford 1

HEDNESFORD Town had to settle for a point against Brackley Town after dominating the second period without finding a winning goal.

The Pitmen had plenty of possession in the opening exchanges but almost fell behind in the eighth minute. Greg Kaziboni found room behind the Hednesford backline but he fired wide from just inside the box.

The Pitmen had another let-off after 19 minutes when Steve Diggin broke clear and found striker Sam Smith whose effort was cleared superbly off the line by John Disney.

It would be a temporary reprieve though as 60 seconds later the home side scored when former Hednesford man Diggin headed home after being picked out by Jack Truelove.

Possession

Hednesford responded well and were level in the 32nd minute as Matt Regan stole possession down the left and picked out Kyle Perry who fired low into the net from 12 yards.

Soon afterwards Sean Williams fired well wide of the upright before Curtis McDonald headed a corner wide of the near post after 42 minutes to see the sides in level at the break.

The visitors started the second period on the front foot as they looked to use the slope to their advantage. Six minutes into the half Ben Bailey strode forward from the back and after being brought down Tom Thorley fired just wide of the upright from the resulting free-kick.

There was a close call in the 57th minute for Hednesford as a free-kick whipped into the box was flicked on by Bailey just wide of his own goal.

Back came Bernard McNally's side and Perry had half a chance to double his total on 65 minutes when Sean Williams found the big striker but he fired over from 12 yards.

Hednesford continued on the front foot and 10 minutes later, after good interplay, Thorley made his way into the box and the midfielder tried to pick out Perry but the ball was snuffed out before it found him.

Andy Todd has the beating of a Brackley defender during the away clash

The home side were now pinned well back and Regan once again broke forward in the 80th minute only to see his deflected shot palmed wide by former Town keeper Dan Crane. From the resulting corner the ball fell to Sean Williams on the edge of the box with his driven effort superbly turned away by Crane.

In a rare foray forward the home side had half a chance to win it in the 86th minute only for Ryan Austin to head wide at the back post.

The one final chance arrived for the Pitmen in the third minute of stoppage time as they were awarded a free-kick 25 yards out. The shot from Paul Ennis looked destined for the top corner of the net but McDonald appeared from nowhere to head behind for a corner.

In the end though Hednesford had to settle for a point from the game with their attentions now turning towards next weekend's FA Cup tie with Bedworth United at Keys Park.

Brackley Town: Crane, Samuels, Truelove (Morley 83), McDonald, Mills, Austin, Kaziboni (Winters 72), Walker, Smith, Diggin, Moyo. Subs not used: Graham, Story, Farrell.

Hednesford Town: Parton, Disney, Regan (Obeng 87), Bailey, T Williams, Trainer, S Williams, Thorley, Perry, Todd (James 75), Digie (Ennis 61). Subs not used: Robinson, Modest.

Club pulls the plug on celebration

WOLVERHAMPTON have pulled the plug on their traditional end-of-season presentation night.

Club bosses have admitted they have hit rock bottom after another poor season for the team – and this means that they are not in the mood for throwing a party.

Owner Chris Van Straaten has taken some time away from his office to consider the situation.

He said: "It seems hypocritical to hold such an event and therefore the planned dinner on October 30 has been cancelled.

"After our hugely-disappointing results on September 7 in our double header against Belle Vue and Leicester we have reached the lowest ebb as a promotion during our tenure at Monmore which goes back almost 30 years," added Mr Van Straaten.

"I know this decision will disappoint many including those supporters who have already purchased tickets – and they will, of course, receive a full refund," he said.

"When we've suffered poor results in previous seasons there have been genuine reasons like injuries but this time there's no excuse – the buck stops firmly with the promotion."

Van Straaten has also revealed how the vital 2016 season will be officially launched with a meet the 2016 team dinner at the Village Hotel in Dudley on Wednesday, March 23.

Ticket details for the event will be announced in due course.

And next year it's a special anniversary year with 25 years since the 1991 title winning team and 20 years since the double winning side of 1996.

Lockmen lose out to a single strike

Ellesmere Rangers 1 Willenhall 0

THE Lockmen stay fourth in the West Midlands Premier Division despite a defeat away in deepest Shropshire.

The deciding goal arrived in the fifth minute.

A long ball forward found Josh Brown running through on goal.

Tim Patterson raced out to meet him and blocked his first attempt, but the ball bounced straight back to the young winger's feet and he tucked it home.

There were plenty of attempts at goal from both sides, but nothing to worry either keeper after the goal.

The Lockmen had half-hearted appeals for a penalty.

★★★

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